

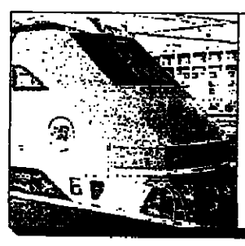
The lure of the cults

Joanna Pitman learns how the new religions could pose a real threat to industry, **page 16**



Milan catwalk

Cocktail dresses fizzing night and day, **page 17**



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20P

THE TIMES

No. 65,209 WEDNESDAY MARCH 8 1995

THE UNIVERSITY SERIALS DIVISION



DES JENSON

Pools of water and thick mud made yesterday's annual University rugby league match at Richmond more like a dress rehearsal for the Boat Race. Cambridge won 16-8. Page 42

Climbers missing as snow hits North

BY GILLIAN BOWDITCH, SCOTLAND CORRESPONDENT

FIVE climbers were missing in blizzard conditions on Scotland's hills last night as heavy snow caused chaos on the roads and cut off parts of the North. Two separate rescue attempts to find the climbers had to be called off last night because of the worsening weather.

Heavy rain, sleet and snow also hit Wales and the West before it began moving eastwards yesterday afternoon, flooding some parts of the M25 and making driving hazardous on all motorways.

Severe blizzards and heavy snow in Cumbria left 3,000 homes in Cleator Moor and Egremont without power for six hours after cables were brought down. The heavy snow blocked roads in many parts of the country and forecasters warned that more is on the way today.

In the Lake District Kirkstone and Honister passes were closed for another day because of snow. Thousands of schoolchildren had an unexpected day off as schools in Carlisle, Penrith, Coniston, Ulverston and Barrow were closed.

The London Weather Centre said last night that the rain and sleet coming from the west would die out over the east today, though it would still feel bitterly cold. The North is expected to have more snow showers.

Over 70 rescuers from the Cairngorm Mountain Rescue Team, RAF Leuchars and RAF Kinloss, with 12 sniffer dogs and an RAF helicopter, were involved in the search for the missing climbers. Braemar mountain rescue team also carried out a search of the southern Cairngorms as the hunt widened.

The second search was for three climbers missing in Glencoe since around 2.30pm yesterday. The search for the men, who had been climbing on Buachaille Etive Mor, will begin again at first light.

Forecast, page 24

Ministers accused of misleading investors

Power shares hit by threat to prices

BY PHILIP WEBSTER AND ERIC REGULY

THE Government was plunged into embarrassment over its latest privatisation last night as ministers were accused of misleading one million private investors who bought shares in PowerGen and National Power.

The charges were levelled after ministers admitted they had been aware when the State sold its remaining stake in the electricity generating industries last week, raising £4 billion, that the industry's regulator was considering tough controls on prices charged by the regional power companies.

Share prices immediately tumbled after Professor Stephen Littlechild, the regulator, announced that he was planning a fresh clampdown. Mounting consumer and political pressure have forced him to announce his second review within a year.

While the prospect of cheaper electricity was welcomed by consumer organisations and MPs, the City and new shareholders were furious.

The announcement caused turmoil within the electricity industry. Shares of all 12 regional electricity companies fell by 10-15 per cent and Northern Electricity, the object of a hostile, £1.23-billion takeover bid from Trafalgar House, was no exception. It shares dropped 15 per cent, to 897p, despite Trafalgar's £11 cash offer. Shares of National Power and PowerGen, the two electricity generators, also declined. There were fears last night that tighter price controls may kill off the planned flotation of the National Grid, the electricity-transmission system owned by the electricity companies.

Michael Heseltine, President of the Board of Trade, faces fierce questioning in the Commons today. John Cunningham, his Labour Shadow, said last night that Professor Littlechild's intention should have been disclosed in the prospectus. If private individuals had acted as the Government had they would have been guilty of insider trading.

The look at pricing is understood to follow the furore that surrounded Northern Electric's action in finding £600 million to give back to shareholders to fight off Trafalgar House. Dr Cunningham said the regulator had realised that the regime was far too lax.

Last summer, after months of consultations with the industry, Professor Littlechild imposed price reductions that come into effect next month. The five-year price cap will save customers in England and Wales about £2.5 billion.

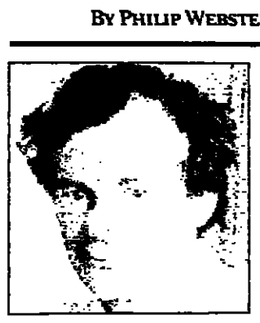
He said it was "relevant to take into account what appears to be widespread public concern about whether the price control proposals are sufficiently demanding on the regional electricity companies, and whether they represent an appropriate balance between the interests of the customers and shareholders". He wanted to examine whether "shareholders have been favoured at the expense of customers".

Tony Blair told John Major in the Commons that the likelihood of new electricity price controls meant there should be an overhaul of the regulatory price system for all public utilities. A review would ensure that the "same abuses" were not happening elsewhere. But the Prime Minister insisted that they showed the system was working.

Conservative MPs were uneasy. Tim Yeo, the former minister, said: "This shows an absence of commonsense on the part of the regulator. There should be a quarantine period in which the regulator does not make price-sensitive announcements."

Downing Street officials last night dismissed allegations that the Government had sold the power industry shares on a false prospectus. They insisted that the regulator was independent of the Government and did not act at its behest. He made his own decisions on reviewing pricing structures. Suggestions that one million investors had been "conned" were "hugely exaggerated"

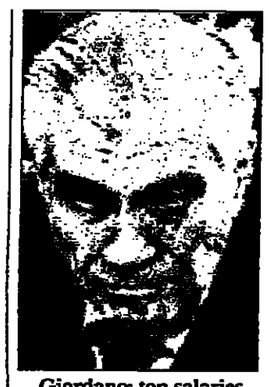
Continued on page 2, col 3



The regulators are ministers in all but name ... We are almost back to the "nudges and winks" of old-style nationalisation

Simon Jenkins on power's new brokers, page 18

Peter Riddell, page 9
Shares slump, page 25



Giordano: top salaries "shrouded in mystery"

Gas chief backs cap on executive salaries

BY PHILIP BASSETT AND ARTHUR LEATHLEY

THE chairman of British Gas admitted last night that new legislation may be necessary to cap salaries of senior executives in privatised companies.

The admission by Richard Giordano is the first by a senior executive from the privatised utilities, and endorses John Major's statement last week on such new legislation.

Mr Giordano's backing will be interpreted as an attempt to defuse the row over top pay, especially the 75 per cent rise for Cedric Brown, the chief executive of British Gas.

His statement came at the end of a tough 100 minutes of evidence to the House of Commons' all-party Employment Select Committee. In the same session, Mr Brown also admitted to MPs he had not previously disclosed to the committee full details of his incentive scheme and share options. But he insisted he had not intended to mislead the Commons.

Mr Giordano said that the pay of company directors was "shrouded in mystery". He said the level of disclosure of information was "appalling",

Continued on page 2, col 1

Matthew Parris, page 2
Leading article, page 19
Business News, page 25
Pennington, page 27
Pay committees, page 29

Part-time directors to be excluded from share deals

BY ARTHUR LEATHLEY POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

KENNETH Clarke took the Government's first action to curb boardroom excesses yesterday by telling part-time directors of all listed companies that the right to join share option schemes will not be extended to them.

The Chancellor backed up the Prime Minister's condemnation of "distasteful" pay awards by insisting that a scheme allowing part-time staff to buy share options will not be extended to directors working fewer than 25 hours a week.

Mr Major voiced his concern last week over pay rises awarded to some directors of privatised utilities and said that legislation might be introduced to curb excessive rises.

Growing public criticism about the high level of boardroom pay has prompted Treasury ministers to back away from the plan to allow hundreds of part-time directors to benefit. Sir George Young, Financial Secretary to the Treasury, announced that opposition to the plan from large City investors had forced the Government to exclude part-timers.

Senior City figures, including Sir Richard Greenbury, who is heading a CBI investigation into top directors' pay, told the Government that allowing non-executive directors to buy share options would reduce their independence, particularly in setting pay rates for full-time directors.

Andrew Smith, Shadow Treasury Chief Secretary, said that after the Government's "caving in", ministers should take "decisive action to end the abuse of executive share option schemes across the privatised utilities."

Dozens of non-executive directors of regional electricity, water and gas companies, as well as many hundreds of part-time directors of private companies, stood to make substantial financial gains under the proposals. The Government made the changes following a House of Lords ruling last year, bringing part-time workers into line with full-time staff.

Jonathan Aitken, the Treasury Chief Secretary, will table a new clause to the Finance Bill to stop directors working fewer than 25 hours a week benefitting from share options schemes, which will be confined to non-directors.

Wellcome 'yes' to Glaxo offer

Glaxo is set to pull off the biggest takeover in British corporate history after directors of Wellcome accepted its £9 billion offer almost at the last minute. The deal will create the largest pharmaceutical company in the world.

Glaxo's 1025p offer closes later today and if successful it expects to pay a further £500 million to Wellcome's directors and staff who exercise their options over Wellcome shares.....Page 25

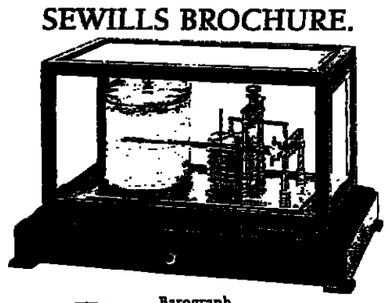
Pakistan cricket captain sacked

Salim Malik, the Pakistan cricket captain accused of offering bribes to two Australian players to lose a Test, was sacked yesterday. The team manager, Intikhab Alam, was also dismissed, though the reason was not clear...Page 48

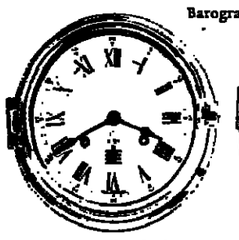
Barclays ballot

Barclays Bank's 32,000 workers are to be balloted on strike action after rejecting a 2.75 per cent pay offer as the bank disclosed soaring profits, up 181 per cent to £1.86 billion last year Pages 25, 27

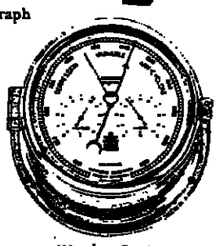
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Pound falls to DM2.25

TURMOIL gripping world currency markets continued yesterday as money continued to flood away from the dollar, and the pound fell to a new low against the mark.

Sterling's fall to DM2.25 and its renewed weakness against other currencies strengthened the case for another rate increase to keep the lid on inflation. The slide came before today's regular monthly meeting between Eddie George, Governor of the Bank of England, and Kenneth Clarke, the Chancellor, who will review interest rates. A weaker pound makes imports dearer, but analysts said the pound was not yet enough of a worry to swing the argument toward another rate rise above 6.75 per cent.

Europe's monetary committee put off today's meeting on moves to a single currency because of the European currency turbulence. There were new record lows against the mark for sterling, the franc, the peseta, the escudo and the Swedish crown. The dollar hit all-time lows against the yen and the mark Page 25

Anthony Harris, page 29

SOUTH KOREA

Focus on South Korea, an economic tiger burning bright

12-page special section

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Overweight? It's all in the mind, scientists say

BY JEREMY LAURANCE HEALTH SERVICES CORRESPONDENT

FAT people are born, not made, and those who diet to lose weight are by and large doomed to fail, American researchers claim.

Obesity is not caused by overeating but by the inefficient use of calories, so that accusing the overweight of gluttony is both unscientific and unhelpful, they say. The scientists, at Rockefeller University in New York, studied a group of 18 obese patients and 23 of normal weight before concluding that fatness is governed by a regulator in the brain that controls the amount of fat on the body just as a thermostat controls temperature.

They say that when adipose tissue is lost or gained, the regulator, dubbed an "adipostat", adjusts the body's output of energy until weight returns to its pre-set level. This setting varies widely in different people, which accounts for humanity's wide variety of body shapes and weights. It also means that dieters face an uphill struggle to maintain a weight lower than that set by their adipostats.

Dr Rudolph Liebel and his colleagues at the university encouraged their patients to eat as much as they could until they had gained 10 per cent in weight. They were then fed a controlled diet until their weight had fallen to 10 per cent below its starting point. At each weight the amount of energy they used when resting or digesting food was measured.

The researchers' findings, reported in the *New England Journal of Medicine*, show that when weight increased, the body's natural energy expenditure also increased to use up the extra calories, and vice versa. These changes are beyond individual control.

Simon Ford, general manager of the Rosemary Conley Diet and Fitness clubs, said: "Some [of our clients] do fall by the wayside when they reach their target weight ... But there are other reasons for going to the clubs. Many treat it as a social outing and like to keep themselves toned up at the same sort of weight."

Labour gives pledge to end prison privatisation

BY RICHARD FORD, HOME CORRESPONDENT

THE Labour Party last night pledged to end the privatisation of the Prison Service and return privately run jails to the public sector.

Jack Straw, the Shadow Home Secretary, promised that jails that are privately run would brought under proper public control during the lifetime of the next Labour government.

He told a meeting in central London that he regarded the privatisation of the prison service as morally repugnant. "It is not appropriate for people to profit out of incarceration. This is surely one area where a 'free market' certainly does not exist."

Making Labour's only firm commitment to renationalise a sector privatised by the Conservatives, Mr Straw said that Labour would honour the existing contracts awarded to private sector companies but would not renew them. "At the expiry of their contracts a Labour government will bring these prisons into proper public control and run them directly as public services," he said.

Mr Straw said the Government's programme of market testing prisons and privatisation had demoralised the Prison Service in England and Wales.

It had also diverted officials' energy and ministerial concentration from the real problems of the prison system. "A substantial proportion of management time had, in the months prior to the incidents [at Everthorpe prison in North Humberside, where there were two nights of rioting in January] been directed towards a response to the establishment's inclusion in the market-testing procedure.

"This caused uncertainty among staff and prisoners about the future of the establishment and adversely affected staff morale," he told the annual meeting of the Bourne Trust, a charity working with prisoner and ex-prisoners.

Mr Straw's pronouncement may also have the effect of discouraging private sector firms from tendering for future projects if they judge that Labour is likely to form the next government. The private sector has pressed for a rapid expansion of prison privatisation, arguing that it will be economic for them only if they can manage more than a handful of prisons.

Four prisons are currently managed by the private sector and Labour sources said last night that returning them to the public sector would not cost vast amounts of cash as the party intended to let the firms complete their contractual arrangements. The first contracts up for renewal are at the Wolds remand jail on Humberside and Blakenhurst jail near Redditch, Hereford and Worcester, in 1997.

The Labour Party indicated that it was working on proposals to end private sector involvement in court escort work.



Straw: no free market in incarceration

NEIL MUNNS/PA



Professor Stephen Littlechild signalled a new crackdown on prices yesterday

Price threat hits power shares

Continued from page 1

and "silly". But Dr Cunningham declared that the Government should have disclosed what they knew — that Mr Littlechild was considering a new price crackdown. "The Government has conned share buyers in PowerGen and National Power. The Government must have been aware of what was going on in Offer. They went ahead with their sale, in the knowledge that Professor Littlechild would do what he has done."

Confirmation that the Government was aware of a price clamp was given yesterday on *The World at One* 4 by Professor Littlechild and Tim Eggar, the Energy Minister.

Professor Littlechild said it was coincidence that his decision had come shortly after the sale. "The Government was aware I was considering this, but it's not for me to say at what time or in what detail I entered into discussions with the Government. My decision was only made yesterday."

Asked if he had been aware of what the regulator was considering, Mr Eggar said: "There were a number of discussions that had taken place going back over a number of months with Offer (Office of Electricity Regulation), but what really matters is the actual decision, which was was communicated to us yesterday afternoon."

Electricity chiefs were stunned. Bryan Townsend, Chairman of Midlands Electricity, said the regulator has "removed all confidence" in the regulatory regime and "replaced it with instability".

Peter Riddell, page 9
Shares slump, page 25

MATTHEW PARRIS
POLITICAL SKETCH

Double act turns the tables on overpaid shower

It is worse than a scandal, it is an outrage! To watch MPs interview the chief executive and the chairman of British Gas yesterday was to see that popular disquiet is well-founded. Top people in key positions are indeed remunerated out of all proportion to their talent. MPs are scandalously overpaid.

We attended the Select Committee on Employment's interview of Cedric Brown and Richard Giordano in the expectation of watching two pompous fat-cats roasted by a panel of conscientious MPs. Instead, we saw two rather capable men pecked at by an ill-disciplined shower of shallow, fuzzy-minded and ill-informed show-offs.

Yet expectations had been high. A new figure was to be interviewed alongside Mr Brown. This was British Gas's chairman, the American-born Mr Giordano. "You toucha my share-option, I smasha your face." A pack of journalists waited in the corridor while the Great Ones within prepared their interrogation. Perhaps their chairman, Greville Janner, QC, MP (Lab, Leicester W), was reading from a leaflet advertising the courses his own company, JSB, offers in "Presentational Skills". I have a copy: a three-day course will set you back £925. You will learn techniques for "assessing audiences — and key individuals; planning and delivering 'soundbites'; fine-tuning, eye-contact, poise and posture — maximising gravitas".

As we entered, Mr Janner himself, wearing a large pink carnation, maximised his gravitas, poise and posture, assessed key individuals in his audience and fine-tuned his eye-contact. He looked straight at Fleet Street's two sketchwriters, inclined his head, and gave us a little smile.

If only what followed had lived up to this. Mr Janner himself interrupted the first questioner, Ernie Ross (Lab, Dundee W), wrecking his line of inquiry. Next, Angela Eagle (Lab, Wallasey), adopting a manner by turns aggressive or whining, appeared to think that Mr Brown's company was near the top, not the bottom, of the FTSE 100 companies. Her questioning careered off-course and hit a tree. Mr Brown, in a suit which exhibited signs of gas-fitter's elbow, managed to remain polite.

But it was Mr Giordano who most impressed. Well-bred and bright, he seemed in a different league from most British businessmen. The committee never touched him.

David Nicholson (C, Taunton) let his exasperation show. He had asked how directors' pay should be determined. Mr Giordano began a considered answer. "By giving a long reply you're taking time out of my allocation!" spluttered Nicholson, providing a splendid if unwitting summary of MPs' approach to select committee participation.

He was followed by Sir Ralph Howell (C, Norfolk N), who asked: "Why do you think we're concentrating so much on British Gas?" Mr Brown's restraint in not replying: "Search me. Why do *you* think you're concentrating so much of British Gas?" was heroic. Then Ken Eastham (Lab, Blackley), who quoted an inaccurate report, appeared to have forgotten the outcome of the committee's last exchanges on showroom employees.

If this committee were a darts team, one would despair of their holding their darts with the sharp bits pointing forward, let alone spotting the dartboard, let alone hitting it. Can anyone think of a way of relating select committee members' remuneration to results?

NEWS SUMMARY

London bed search ends in Leeds

A man with head injuries who was run over by a van in Orpington, southeast London, had to be flown to a hospital in Leeds 200 miles away by an RAF air-sea rescue helicopter summoned from Suffolk after doctors were unable to find a neurosurgery unit anywhere nearer that could treat him.

The accident happened on Monday night and the 30-year-old man underwent surgery yesterday. Police later arrested the van driver.

Gay bishop

An Anglican bishop last night become the first to discuss his homosexuality openly. The Rt Rev Derek Rawcliffe, 73, an Assistant Bishop in the Ripon diocese, told BBC television that "he wanted to reassure priests who were gay and that the Church has got to come to terms with the situation, not to hedge about it".

Church note, page 8

Hostage rescued

Police yesterday rescued Karl Wilson, 24, who was beaten and held for a ransom of £2,200 over a debt. Two men were arrested at the pick-up point for the money in Leigh-on-Sea, Essex, and a woman was later held during a raid on an address at Writtle.

Hepatitis doubts

Doctors are calling for a review of hepatitis B screening procedures after doubts over the accuracy of tests. Researchers at University Hospital of Wales in Cardiff found kits used to check for infection in health workers gave conflicting results.

Dounreay leak

Urgent investigations are being made at the Dounreay nuclear reprocessing plant in Highland after a concentration of radioactivity was found in working areas last month, the Scottish Office said last night. The plant was shut down and evacuated.

Murder hunt

A nationwide police hunt for Brian Cuthbertson, former boyfriend of a murdered care worker, has switched to Cramlington, Northumbria, after he was seen in the area. *Phaedra Walker's body* was found near Cookham, Berkshire, on Saturday.

Cheese reprieve

Humphrey Errington, a farmer whose stock of unpasteurised blue-veined cheese was ordered to be destroyed as unfit for human consumption, has won a month's reprieve from the Court of Session in Edinburgh yesterday.

Hope for boxer

The boxer Gerald McClellan showed the first signs of regaining consciousness yesterday, ten days after being injured during a fight against Nigel Benn. The hospital said his condition was stable but it was "difficult to say" whether he was still in a coma.

Yacht signals

Fresh distress signals have been picked up from an emergency beacon belonging to the solo British yachtsman Harry Mitchell 1,500 miles west of Cape Horn. The search is continuing near where his original distress signal was picked up.

Gas chief backs cap on salaries

Continued from page 1

and proposed that all pay, benefits, bonus and share details for every company director should be fully disclosed in their annual reports.

While he suggested that such a change could be achieved through amending the Stock Exchange's rules on disclosure, he told the Commons committee: "If it can't be accomplished through that, I support legislation."

Mr Giordano's statement supports the pledge made last week by the Prime Minister that the Government would consider legislation if it is proposed by the Confederation of British Industry. Mr Major's statement angered many right-wing Tories.

The gas chairman's explicit endorsement of it is likely to be seen by many privatised utility bosses as going further than they were prepared for. He acknowledged there was now among the public a "sense of disquiet and cynicism" about directors' pay-setting.

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Pay committees, page 29

Mayhew sets conditions for IRA disarmament

BY TOM RHODES AND NICHOLAS WATT

THE Northern Ireland Secretary set out a three-point plan for decommissioning of IRA weapons yesterday that would allow Sinn Fein to join full negotiations on the future of the Province.

In a speech in Washington, Sir Patrick Mayhew said Sinn Fein could end its "self-imposed disqualification" from the political process if it met the conditions in the plan.

Sir Patrick said the Government wanted Sinn Fein to show a "willingness in principle to disarm progressively" and for the two sides to agree on how arms would be decommissioned. He urged republicans to start the process by decommissioning some of its arms as a "tangible confidence-building measure". He added: "Substantial progress on this must be made before Sinn Fein in particular can be admitted to substantive talks for an overall settlement." Sir Patrick told reporters as he went into a meeting with Warren Christopher, US Secretary of State.

Unionists last night accused Sir Patrick of capitulating to the IRA. Ken Maginnis, the Ulster Unionist security spokesman, said: "We have 100 tonnes of sophisticated weapons in the hands of the IRA and the Secretary of State is talking about tokens. That flies in the face and fears of 90 per cent of this community."

Sir Patrick denied that his remarks, the most detailed explanation of the Government's position on decommissioning since exploratory talks with Sinn Fein began in December, signalled a turnaround from an earlier government principle that disarmament must be complete before substantive talks could take place. "That has never been the case," Sir Patrick said. "What we have said is that substantial progress must be made in the decommissioning of arms before, so far as we are concerned, Sinn Fein could be admitted to substantial talks.

"In a democracy, parties will not sit down and must not sit down with another party that implies that if it does not get its way it is going to ...return to arms."

Mr Christopher urged all sides "to continue to refrain from violence" and said the IRA and loyalists should take "the next essential step towards disarmament" — the decommissioning of arms.

Earlier in his speech Sir Patrick said the discussion on weapons would include procedures for verification, the need for independent supervision of the destruction of arms, and decommissioning methods.

His comments indicated that the Government accepted IRA weapons would only be handed over in the Republic, and might be decommissioned elsewhere. Dick Spring, the Irish Deputy Prime Minister, recently suggested that a Scandanavian country could deal with the weapons.

☐ Sir Patrick urged members of the Clinton Administration not to treat Gerry Adams, president of Sinn Fein, as a world leader. "We are the country that has sustained the consequences of his violence over the last 25 years ... It would be dismaying to about 50 million people to see Mr Adams shaking hands with the President of the greatest democracy in the world," he said.

Exclusion orders on 14 to go

BY RICHARD FORD
HOME CORRESPONDENT

MICHAEL HOWARD is to lift up to 14 exclusion orders banning people who live in Northern Ireland and elsewhere from entering Britain today after security service advice that they are no longer a threat.

The Home Secretary will make the announcement during the annual Commons debate on the Prevention of Terrorism Act and tell MPs that he has reached his decision after reviewing 56 outstanding orders banning people from entering Britain. The decision to lift fewer than half of the 56 existing orders will be strongly resented by nationalist MPs in Northern Ireland and the Irish government who, in the wake of the IRA ceasefire, have expected the lifting of a much larger number of orders.

Mr Howard has decided against altering the Prevention of Terrorism Act, which is to be renewed in its entirety. Last month Sir Patrick Mayhew, the Northern Ireland Secretary, lifted exclusion orders on ten people banned from the Province.

Unionists try to split Tory vote

BY GILLIAN BOWDITCH AND JILL SHERMAN

ULSTER Unionists, angry at the Government over its policies on Northern Ireland, are to take their fight to the mainland ballot box. They intend to support an independent Unionist candidate at the Perth and Kinross by-election in an attempt to split the Conservative vote.

The move is the first in what is expected to be a long-running campaign of fielding Unionist candidates against Conservatives. The Ulster Unionists say that the challenge will highlight the Government's double standards over Scotland and Northern Ireland.

No date has been set for the by-election but April 6, the day of the local authority elections in Scotland, is a strong possibility. The Perth and Kinross seat has been left vacant by the death of the Tory MP Sir Nicholas Fairbairn, who held it for 21 years. His majority was only 2,094 and even a small split in the Tory vote could lead to their defeat.

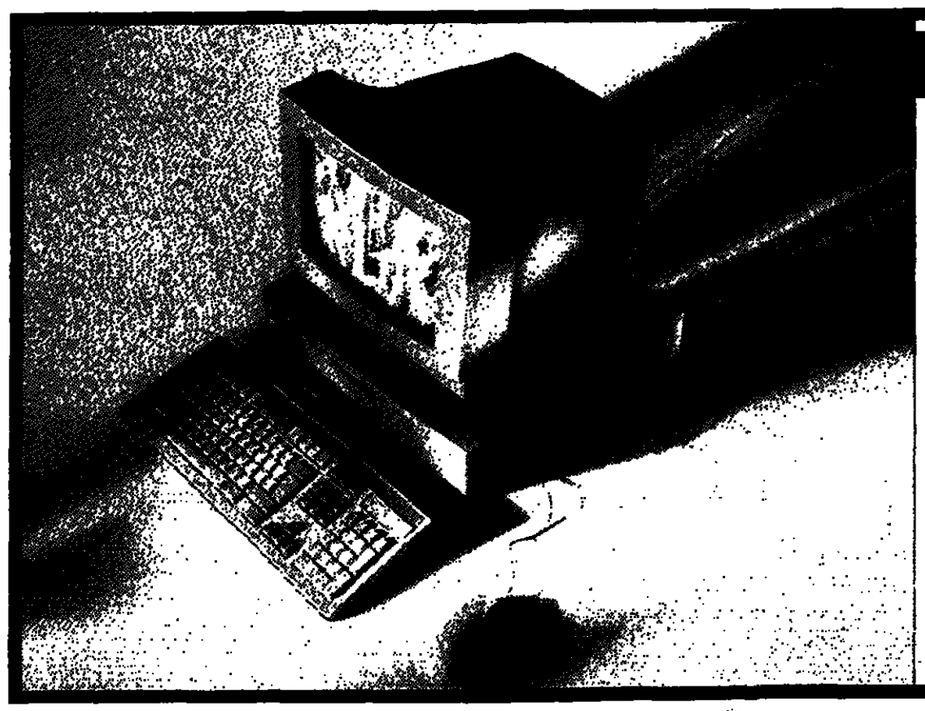
James Molyneaux, leader of Ulster Unionist Party (UUP), made known at Westminster that the first he knew of his party's attempts to back a candidate was in newspaper reports yesterday morning. However, it emerged later that Jeffrey Donaldson, honorary secretary of the party, approached MPs last Sunday night to sound out their opinion on backing a candidate. Members of the party said privately that they were prepared to work unofficially with Unionists in Scotland.

The independent Unionists have not announced the identity of their candidate. Anyone fighting as an independent is expected to come from the ranks of disaffected Scottish Tories.

A Conservative spokesman in Scotland said that the Unionist plans "will not affect our policy or election strategy". The Tory candidate is John Godfrey, who works for a Japanese merchant bank in London. He has been accused of being too English.

☐ **General election 1992**: Sir N Fairbairn (C), 20,195; Ms R Cunningham (SNP), 18,101; M J Rolfe (Lab), 6,267; M Black (LD), 5,714. C maj: 2,094.

Rich Perth, page 9



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هكذا من الاصل

Twin town too far takes cordiale out of entente

BY PAUL WILKINSON AND SUSAN BELL

A LIAISON of nearly 40 years between Yorkshire and the Pyrenees is dying from lack of interest. Both parties agree it was always a non-starter, an enforced link that neither really wanted, separated as they are by 1,000 miles and different languages. To put it bluntly, Ripon and Foix have never hit it off.

The last straw in their rocky relationship has been Foix's admission that it has another partner on its doorstep. The good citizens of Foix prefer to visit their other twin town of Lerida, a short drive across the Spanish border where, unlike Ripon, the visiting French can understand the version of Catalan spoken by their hosts.

Ripon (population 14,000, magnificent cathedral) forged a bond with Foix (population 10,000, fairytale castle and monastic hilltop ruins) in 1957, in the heady days when town-twinning was all the rage in helping to forge a united Europe.

A grand, illuminated *protocol d'amité* hangs in the Mayor's office in Ripon, presented when the two municipalities were thrust together by a Euro-dating agency that specialised in finding partner towns with supposedly common interests. Since then, however, the twins have barely spoken to each other.

The issue came to a head when the organisers of the annual Ripon festival decided to make a final effort and invited Foix's rugby team and Mexican band to North Yorkshire. However, when the festival organisers asked for £2,000 to put the visitors up, Ripon council decided it was not worth the trouble.

Patrick Webb, secretary to the Mayor of Ripon, said yesterday: "I don't think we will formally vote to end the connection, but I don't think we will be doing much in that direction. We have strong links with the Ripons in California and Wisconsin."

Things have not gone well since a party of Ripon Rotarians visited Foix within months of the twinning to be told at the town hall that the Mayor was too busy to see them. Since then, invitations to the Ripon festival, and letters written by Ripon schoolchildren during their French lessons, have gone unanswered.

Harold Baines, Mayor of Ripon, said yesterday: "It was a non-runner from the start. I agree with the French: it was just too far away. They should have got the map out a bit earlier to see where Foix was. As a result, we haven't spoken to them for 38 years."

Caroline Gonsalez, of the Foix tourist office, admitted yesterday that the Spanish twin town of Lerida was a greater attraction. "We can go there in the morning and come home again in the afternoon. It is much easier than going to your Yorkshire."

Juliette Grangé, Deputy Mayor of Foix, said the twinning arrangement had been made by a former Mayor, an English teacher. When he retired, interest declined. "No one speaks much English at the *mairie* now. We are much closer to Spain and their language. It is a question of languages, really."

Visitors to Yorkshire from the Home Counties have been known to take a similar view.

Leading article, page 19

'Days of jolly junkets are over'

RIPON is the second English twin to have cut ties with its French partner within the past year, although there are only about a dozen cases of such a separation (Ian Murray writes).

Last autumn Hatfield, in Hertfordshire, decided to break its two-and-a-half-year links with Marignane, near Marseilles, because it was unable to organise holiday exchanges for children. Peter Clarke, the Hatfield town clerk, said yesterday: "A main problem is that it is a southern French town and the journey times are so long. If we should decide to link with another French town it will have to be a lot closer."

According to the International Local Government Bureau, town-twinning is more popular than ever, with 1,765 existing partnerships and 70 formed every year. There are currently 300 towns looking for English partners and 150 English towns seeking a twin.

The bureau, which acts as the clearing house for all applications, does its best to bring towns together with similar interests, locations, history or economic backgrounds. It claims that hardly any mismatches occur. "If there are a few hiccoughs people let the relationship lie dormant for a year or two and then a new group of people will come along and start it up again."

The twinning movement grew out of wartime links. Keighley, in West Yorkshire, established one of the first in 1920 when it built a red brick hall for Poix-de-Picardie, a town ravaged in the First World War.

Coventry lays claim to being the most twinned town, with 26 partners all over the world. Its first was formed in 1944 with Stalingrad — now Volgagrad — and 16 of its twins are with cities ravaged by war. It now has an appeal for blankets and children's shoes for Sarajevo, another twin.

"The days of twinning providing jolly junkets for councillors are over," a Coventry spokesman said. "Twinning for us means helping people."



Sir Robert Stephens with his wife and fellow actor Patricia Quinn after receiving the insignia of his knighthood from the Queen at Buckingham Palace yesterday

Starr swore at me, gardener tells court

BY KATHRYN KNIGHT

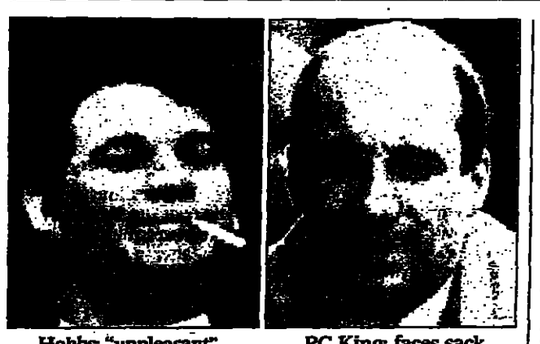
A GARDENER who worked for Freddie Starr told a court yesterday that the comedian was a violent man who had shaken and verbally abused him.

Robin Coxhead, 44, from Reading, Berkshire, worked for Mr Starr and his former wife Sandra for seven years. He told Reading Crown Court: "Freddie was addicted to Valium. He had terrible mood swings. One time he hit Mrs Starr in the face with a coat hanger."

Mr Coxhead, who was sacked by Mrs Starr after he allegedly used their house to entertain men while the Starrs were away, is accused of stealing jewels worth £41,000 from them. He denies three charges of theft, and said that the jewellery was given to him by Mr Starr in return for sexual favours.

Mr Coxhead told the jury that on one occasion Mr Starr had pushed him against the wall, calling him a prima donna. "After that he said, 'let's be friends and buddies again' and that's when he gave me a Cartier watch, around November 1993."

Earlier Susan Englefield, a housekeeper who worked for the Starrs from October 1993 until recently, told the jury that Mr Coxhead had told her that he was in debt and that he was trying to sell some jewellery, worth about £13,000. "He was anxious that I didn't tell Sandie Starr," she said. The trial continues.



Hobbs: "unpleasant" PC King: faces sack

Royal bodyguard fined for assault

BY ANDREW PIERCE

A FORMER police bodyguard to John Major and the Princess Royal was fined yesterday for punching a teenager who had threatened to throw his nine-week-old baby out of a train window.

PC Richard King now faces the sack from the City of London force after being found guilty at Southend Magistrates' Court of assault. The court was told that the off-duty policeman, who denied assault, was cradling his daughter Jessica when he overheard David Hobbs, 18, say: "I'd like to throw her out of the window." Mr Hobbs, who was with five friends, said it was a light-hearted remark which the policeman was not intended to hear.

King, a member of the City of London tactical firearms unit, told the court: "I could not believe what I heard. My six-year-old son was petrified. I wasn't going to wait to see if he carried out the threat." After punching Mr Hobbs he handed the baby to his wife Tina and arrested him.

Inigo Bing, the stipendiary magistrate, said that Mr Hobbs had behaved in a "silly, unpleasant and worrying way". He said "I have some understanding of the concern of parents who have a child in their care, but I consider that PC King overreacted."

PC King, of South Benfleet, Essex, was fined £150 for the assault on the Southend line last June. He said: "The look on his face was sneering. I thought he was threatening my child. It happened so quickly I didn't have time to say 'I'm arresting you. I'm a police officer'."

Michael Egan, for the defence, said that the comment by Mr Hobbs was offensive. "One could not blame any parent for taking it as a threat of violence."

Weddings team beats Hollywood to the deal

BY ANDREW PIERCE

A BRITISH novelist who wrote his first book four years ago has sold his latest work for $1 million to the London production company that made *Four Weddings and a Funeral*.

Only two weeks ago the rights to Philip Kerr's *Gridiron* were put up for auction by the London literary agents A.P. Watt. Hollywood studios had shown great interest in the 38-year-old writer, who was feted last year by Granta as one of Britain's best new novelists.

But the north London production company Working Title, buoyed by record-breaking revenues from the Oscar-nominated *Four Weddings and a Funeral*, which starred Hugh Grant, was able to beat off the Hollywood challenge. Tim Bevan, who was one of the producers of *Four Weddings and a Funeral*, helped to secure the deal, which is the most expensive in the production company's history.

The book, which the producers believe will appeal to American audiences, revolves around a high-tech office block that has a mind of its own. A computer in the basement, which powers the technology in the building, develops its own logic with terrifying consequences.

Mr Bevan clinched the deal last Friday with a $1 million offer (£640,000), which the Kerr camp accepted immediately. Filming will start next year with a budget of about $30 million. Most of the filming will take place in Britain, providing a further fillip to the industry.

Nicholas Marston, who handled the negotiations for A.P. Watt, said: "We were going to follow usual policy and aim to sell the book, which is set in Los Angeles, to Hollywood. But Phil Kerr was anxious to strike a deal with a British company. We decided to let Working Title have a look at *Gridiron* on a first-look basis to see if they wanted to make an offer."

It is the second notable success for Mr Marston. Last year he sold the rights to *The Horse Whisperer*, by the British writer Nick Evans, to Robert Redford for £2 million.

Mr Marston admitted he could probably have secured a better fee from an American studio. "Working Title was impressive because of its enthusiasm for the project. It is great news for the British film industry. It means that ... Working Title is up in the same league as Hollywood."

Working Title, which is based in Kentish Town, is owned by the Dutch firm Polygram. A director and cast for the film will be chosen within the next month and it is expected to be on general release at the end of next year. *Gridiron* will be published in Britain in June.

SATURDAY IN THE TIMES



Pets welcome

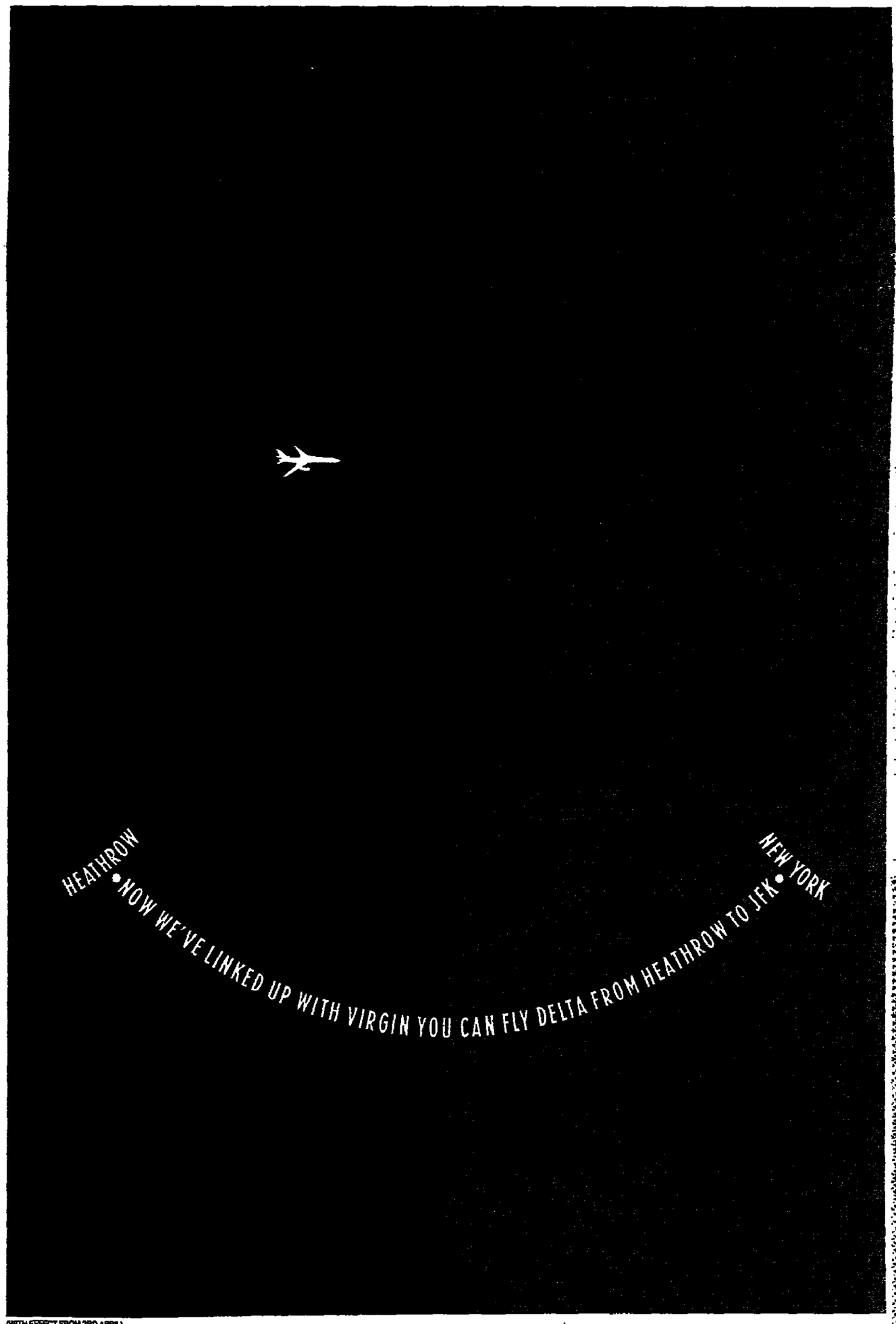
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Leeson 'practised forging signature to trick auditors'

FROM DOMINIC KENNEDY IN FRANKFURT

NICK Leeson practised copying the signature of a Wall Street executive before forging his name, according to evidence found in Singapore. The public prosecutor in Frankfurt, where the Barings dealer is facing extradition for alleged falsification of papers, released the text of a document yesterday explaining how Mr Leeson conducted the alleged fraud.

He is said to have forged the signature of Richard Hogan, managing director of Spear, Leeds and Kellogg, the biggest specialist firm on the New York Stock Exchange, to deceive the auditors of Barings in Singapore.

The document, from Singapore's Commercial Affairs Department, says: "What was shown to the auditors of Barings Futures as a purported receipt of funds of 7.8 billion yen [about £50 million] from Spear, Leeds and Kellogg is actually the transfer of that sum of money from Barings Futures customers' account to its house account.

"Barings officers found documents in the office of Nick which showed that confirmation allegedly sent by Spear, Leeds and Kellogg was manufactured in Nick's office. He had apparently been practising the signature of Richard Hogan, the managing director of Spear, Leeds and Kellogg."

Hans-Hermann Eckert, the prosecutor, said it was alleged that Mr Leeson, 28, used the forged signature as collateral to obtain money from Citibank in Singapore to conduct the futures trading that led to Barings's collapse.

Specialists, such as Spear, Leeds and Kellogg, are members of the exchange who take responsibility for maintaining a fair and orderly market in the securities in which they are registered. If a stock is failing to attract sufficient interest from investors, they buy or sell it with their own money to prevent the price falling.

Herr Eckert also disclosed yesterday that an officer from the Serious Fraud Office had a private meeting with a three-man team from the Singapore Commercial Affairs Department last week. The German prosecutor vacated his office on the seventh floor of the court administration building in downtown Frankfurt to allow the British policeman and the Singapore representatives to have a confidential discussion.

The Singapore team had flown to Frankfurt with documents to support their Government's request for Germany to hold Mr Leeson pending extradition hearings. The request was granted by a Frankfurt court on Friday.

Mr Leeson was detained at Frankfurt International Airport when he arrived on a flight from Malaysia after the collapse of Barings, the 232-year-old City bank that has since been bought by the Dutch group ING. Herr



Leeson: alleged to have faked £50m deal

Eckert said: "The Serious Fraud Office has to establish whether under English law Mr Leeson committed a crime which would be subject to extradition.

"The Singaporeans came last week because they wanted to inform themselves about the German extradition law. There has not been any official application from Britain yet for extradition."

The Singapore trio left Frankfurt for Bonn where the Justice and Foreign Ministries hold the key to Mr Leeson's fate. Although the courts will deal with the legalities of the extradition plea, the German Government has the final say.

Mr Leeson will attend a hearing in Frankfurt by early next week when the court will explain its reasons for agreeing to detain him. He will be given the opportunity to agree to the extradition request, which would allow a fast-track procedure to be adopted. "He will be asked whether he will agree to a simplified extradition, which means going back to Singapore before the official documents for the extradition request arrive," Herr Eckert said.

"I know his answer will be no. He wants to go to Britain. Another complication could be that if England makes an application for extradition and Mr Leeson says he wants to go to England under the simplified extradition treaty, and if he says this before the official documents arrive from Singapore, it will cause problems for the authorities here because they do not know what to do. It is all hypothetical; we must wait to see what the English authorities will do."

Mr Leeson faces extradition under a treaty of 1872 between the Weimar Republic and the British Empire, which still applies to those parts of the globe that were coloured red in Queen Victoria's time, with the exception of the United Kingdom. Extraditions to this country are now performed under European Union law.

Mr Leeson is paying for his own defence. He is not eligible for legal aid because in Germany it is only available to the poor. Herr Eckert joked: "From what I heard last week, he earned enough money."

The Briton, who fled Singapore with his wife Lisa, remained at a remand prison in the suburb of Höchst last night. The governor, Hardmut Jung-Silberreiss, said he was "in good spirits".

Mr Leeson's German lawyer, Eberhard Kempf, said: "He is relatively well but in complete uncertainty about what will happen to him. He is afraid to be extradited to Singapore. He would prefer to be extradited to London.

"He is not crazy, he is a realistic man and he is very, very clear about his situation. He just waits. He never had so much time on his hands and nothing to do with it."

Letters, page 19





Beatrice, left, in 1911 when she was 19. Right, a provocative postcard that Elijah sent to Beatrice in 1918. It was one of the last she received

Diary tells a tale of tragedy below stairs

BY ANDREW PIERCE

A NEWLY discovered diary of an Edwardian maid, which gaves a rare insight into life below stairs in one of the National Trust's premier houses, has gone on public display for the first time. The journal, complete with immaculately preserved postcards, reveals a passionate but doomed love affair between the maid, Beatrice Christopher, and a lance corporal. She died at the age of 30, probably of TB.

The dust-covered diary of Beatrice Christopher, who worked at Kingston Lacy on the 16,500-acre Bankes estate near Wimborne, Dorset, from 1910 to 1922, was discovered by her niece, Maureen Day. Mrs Day, 55, of Spetisbury, Dorset, was clearing out her late uncle's bungalow. "I knew nothing about the diary. I just checked the top of the wardrobe and there it was."

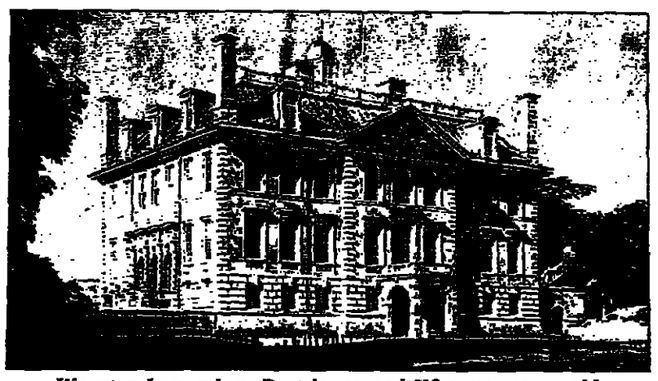
It was only when Mrs Day was on a National Trust tour of the estate, which was created in 1632 by Sir John Bankes, the Chief Justice to Charles I, that she realised the rarity of the find. "The warden asked if he could read it and fell in love with it. It is a very beautiful story," Mrs Day said.

The diary contains a description of the maid's shock at the sinking of the *Titanic* in 1912. It also says: "Easter Monday, April 5, 1915: Lizzie and myself went to Hampton Court. The fare was ninepence. Lovely long ride. Saw the palace grounds and the maze. It was jolly fine fun in the maze. We had a lovely tea in the hotel outside the palace grounds and then we had an awful rush for a return bus. Hampton Court to Charing Cross: tenpence."

The estate, which includes Corfe Castle and Studland Beach, was given to the National Trust in 1981 by the late Ralph Bankes. It was the largest and one of the most important bequests the Trust has received. Beatrice worked for Ralph Bankes's mother, Henrietta, and Ralph was eight when Beatrice joined the household.

One of the diary's most fascinating sections chronicles the tale of her romance with Lance Corporal Elijah Ford, a young soldier from Derby. Beatrice, who earned £10 a year, had never set foot outside Dorset when she fell for the dashing soldier from the 2nd Sherwood Foresters at a social evening in Studland.

The postcards include several saucy Edwardian scenes of couples cuddling and on one Elijah wrote: "I wish this was us." The couple became engaged and travelled north to meet her family but their marriage never took place. War intervened and her lover was posted abroad where he became a prisoner of war in Holland. He later married a Dutch girl who had became pregnant by him. Elijah returned to Derby with his wife where he worked as a groundsman for Derby Football Club. Distant relatives of the Ford family still live in Derby.



Kingston Lacy, where Beatrice earned £10 a year as a maid

Beatrice's mother died after learning about Elijah's affair and her brother William was then killed in the war. The last card from Elijah was dated June 1918. Beatrice, who joined the staff of 15 at the house in 1910 aged 18, died "a bundle of rags" at 30, officially from tuberculosis but, Mrs Day suspects, from a broken heart. She is buried in an unmarked grave in Witchampton, Dorset.

David Smith, a warden for the National Trust, is using the diary for a series of lecture tours. They will be the centrepiece of an exhibition in Dorchester Record Office next month to mark the centenary of the Trust.

"It is fascinating to read and also very unusual because maids and other people in Beatrice's position did not, as a rule, keep diaries. What is fantastic is that it is all written so precisely and she chronicles all of her escapades in such detail. She even wrote poetry and recipes. Her writing was neat and concise," said Mr Smith. "I think the shock and strain of Elijah paved the way for the TB. It all became too much for her."

A spokeswoman for the National Trust said: "The journal is a remarkable piece of work which throws important light on life below stairs."

Spread of information 'will weaken the State'

BY NIGEL HAWKES
SCIENCE EDITOR

THE information age will create a world in which corporations are more important than nation states and a tiny elite defends itself against a dispossessed underclass, a business conference in London was told yesterday.

Professor Ian Angell, of the London School of Economics, painted a gloomy picture of a world full of frightened people where the rich write the rules and the poor are dumped. As wealth becomes more and more dependent on "knowledge workers" who can migrate wherever they want, the nation state and its power to levy taxes will decline.

Already, he said, global tax levels were falling. "Top income tax rates fell an average of 16.5 per cent between 1975 and 1989. The power in global economic forces means that the tax burden is irrevocably moving on to the shoulder of the immobile, off income and on to expenditure."

Propelling the world to such a dark and degenerate future was the growing value of information over all other commodities, and the weakening ties between big business and any fixed place, Professor Angell told a conference on fraud and crime organised by the Royal Institute for International Affairs at the Dorchester Hotel in London.

The elite in the information society would form just 10 per cent of the world's population, he said. The "information poor" would see wages sink to Third World levels — while taxes rose because the elite would refuse to pay them.

MEDICAL BRIEFING

How surgeons cut the murder rate

Dr Thomas Stuttaford

The 19th century saw dramatic changes in the educational background and status of doctors in general, surgeons in particular. Nowhere was this more obvious than in the armed forces. The regimental medical officer was, until the first part of the 19th century, an uncouth sawbones, but, by a process that started in the Napoleonic wars, by the end of the century he had changed into not only an officer and a gentleman but also a very competent surgeon.

The second great revolution in military medicine has happened in the past 50 years, transforming medical officers' ability to save lives. One of those who acted as a catalyst, Brigadier Ian Haywood, died recently. He, more than anybody else, introduced the drill still used for the aggressive early management of battlefield casualties so that those first on the scene could ensure that the casualty had a functional airway, that an intravenous drip was put up and that chest drainage was in place for those with damaged lungs and ribs, so that the casualty did not die of any easily corrected symptom.

The influence of civilian surgical practice on the Army has been reciprocated by the lessons learnt in the treatment of battlefield casualties that have been instilled into everyday emergency surgery; hence the success of the Royal London Hospital's helicopter, and of the surgical teams that go out to road accidents.

The improved treatment of those who have been the victims of violence confounds one of the principal arguments used against capital punishment. As a life-long abolitionist, who voted against capital punishment when it came before Parliament during my brief sojourn as an MP, I worry that our case was often argued on the grounds that, as there had been no increase in murder, hanging was not a deterrent.

Many people who would have been charged with murder are now accused of a lesser crime because their victim's life has been saved by improvements in traumatic surgery. The surgeons and anaesthetists are constantly saving patients who, if they had had the same injuries 50 years ago, would not have had a chance of surviving the grievous wounds inflicted by shooting, stabbing or bludgeoning.

If the murder rate has not increased, it is not because imprisonment is as great a deterrent as hanging, but because the late Brigadier Haywood, and other experts in traumatic surgery, have learnt to resuscitate the victims.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Zeffirelli wins libel damages

Franco Zeffirelli, the Italian film director, accepted "very substantial" libel damages in the High Court yesterday from Oscar Moore, Editor of *Screen International*, and Emap Media Ltd over an article last August which described him as a fascist MP. Pamela Cassidy, for the magazine, said that the allegation was untrue and was a sub-editing mistake.

Keeper fined

Paul Rudkin, 26, a gamekeeper on Forde Abbey Estate, near Chard, Somerset, was fined £200 at Bridport after the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds filmed him setting illegal pole traps for wild birds.

Airbus inquiry

The Transport Department will investigate an incident in which a Virgin Atlantic Airbus taking 166 passengers and 15 crew to Gatwick scraped its tailplane on the runway at Hong Kong after being hit by a gust of wind.

Ince charged

The Football Association said it would take no immediate action against Paul Ince, 27, the Manchester United and England midfielder, after he was charged with assaulting a spectator in an incident involving Eric Cantona.

Man hanged

A contract electrician aged 26 was found hanging in a basement room at the Palace of Westminster yesterday morning. Police said the death of the man, who has not been named, was not being treated as suspicious.

Trigger happy

Armed police pinned down a man seen with a shotgun outside a building society in Kidderminster, Hereford and Worcester, only to discover that he was returning from having the butt and trigger cover of his gun engraved.

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Families condemn BBC over ritual abuse drama

BY ROBIN YOUNG

FAMILIES who were involved in allegations of the ritual or sexual abuse of their children are incensed that the BBC plans to screen a drama inspired by their experiences.

Flowers of the Forest is to be announced tomorrow as a Screen 2 production from BBC Scotland. It has been written by Michael Eaton, who scripted ITV's *Shoot to Kill* drama-documentary about Northern Ireland, which was accused of being biased towards the IRA.

Flowers of the Forest is set in a small Highland community and deals with the difficulties that social workers confront in dealing with a suspected case of ritual abuse. Mr Eaton acknowledges that he drew on events in widely publicised cases in Orkney, Rochdale and Cleveland in which children were seized but allegations of abuse were later concluded to have been groundless.

Families in the Orkney case, in which nine children were taken from their homes on the island of South Ronaldsay in 1991, and in Ayr, where children were returned home only



Martini: play is in "incredibly bad taste"



Bell: "no good" for children or parents

last week, have attacked the proposed screening as a tasteless bid for higher ratings. They complained yesterday that the Highland location used for the filming would make viewers think that the events portrayed were what had really happened in Orkney or Ayr.

Dr Helen Martini, leader of the South Ronaldsay Parents' Action Group, described the play as "pure ratings-grabbing". "It is incredibly bad taste," she said. "To dramatise such events is just not on. Filming in a remote Scottish Highland village points immediately to Orkney. We do not want to be branded the place where parents have sex with kids. We just want to get on with our lives."

Dr Martini, a surgeon who campaigned on behalf of the four South Ronaldsay families, said that the BBC project was crass and callous. "There is too much heartache and suffering in communities such as ours to consider this topic a fit subject for entertainment."

Michael Johnston, a solicitor in Ayr whose firm represented a family whose three sons were taken into care, said: "The BBC will have to exercise extreme caution and give clear warnings that the events portrayed are fictional. Neither Satanic nor ritual sexual abuse has ever been established in these cases. What would be of benefit would be to highlight the serious excesses social workers indulge in when they decide that something sinister has happened."

The Middlesbrough MP Stuart Bell, who helped Cleveland families to regain their children after social workers took 121 into care in 1987, said: "Rehashing events which were nightmares for all the families concerned will do no good whatsoever for them or their children."

BBC Scotland confirmed last night that the screening would go ahead. "Mr Eaton has researched the story very thoroughly and has looked at several recent cases. This is a fiction, not based on any one case. Everyone at BBC Scotland, and Mr Eaton himself, is aware of the seriousness and sensitivity of the subject."

Media, page 23

CARL RUTHERFORD



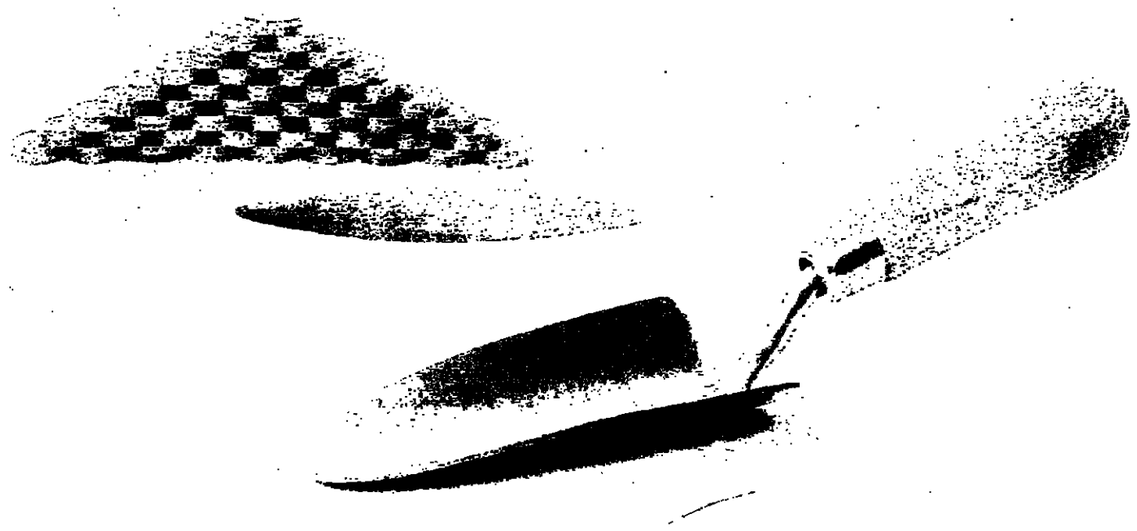
A pet terrier nestles safely in the arms of its owner after plunging 300ft over a cliff. Darren McConnell, 13, feared the worst when Fail lost its footing after chasing a rabbit near Skinningrove, Cleveland. When his father Trevor scrambled down he discovered the dog, a Lakeland-Border cross, lying stunned and with a cut head. A check by a veterinary surgeon showed it had suffered no other injury. Darren, of

Dog survives 300ft plunge on to rocks

Loftus, Cleveland, said: "The cliff is one of the highest along the coast and I thought Fail wouldn't survive. Cats are supposed to be lucky and have many lives but Fail must be the luckiest dog in Britain. We called her Fail as a pup after we lost two terriers down holes over the years. We knew she wouldn't fail and she has proved it. I don't think any other dog would have survived. She had never been out along this part of the cliffs before and I don't think she'll be going again." Mr McConnell, an unemployed mineworker, said: "Fail loves hunting, but next time we will have to fix a parachute to her or she might not be so lucky."

☐ Two specially trained dogs are being used by Devon and Cornwall Police to hunt illegal firearms. Shay, a collie cross, and Dilly, a springer spaniel, will scour the countryside and buildings. "It does not matter when the weapons were last used, or how carefully they have been cleaned," a spokesman said.

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Ceasefire puts IRA police back on the beat

BY STEWART TENDLER
CRIME CORRESPONDENT

HUNDREDS of police officers are being taken off anti-terrorist operations in London as part of a peace dividend from the IRA ceasefire, Sir Paul Condon, the Commissioner of the Metropolitan Police, said yesterday.

For the first time, fighting terrorism is not among the top objectives for the force for the next year, but Sir Paul said he was not planning to dismantle the 130-strong anti-terrorist branch or special branch team of 550 officers. He said that it would be unwise to disband something which he might suddenly need.

Sir Paul said that terrorism still had a high priority and there would always be a core of specialist officers on hand which could be assisted in an emergency by officers from other units.

Senior officers within the anti-terrorist branch and the special branch acknowledge that there will have to be cuts if the peace holds. Protection duties alone cost £73 million a year.

Some senior officers have already retired and not been replaced under general cuts at Scotland Yard. But Sir Paul and his staff are expected to examine manpower in the Yard's protection and security teams this autumn if the ceasefire holds for a year and no splinter groups emerge to carry on mainland attacks.

Yesterday Sir Paul, announcing his priorities and policing plans for the year, said that London remained a target for all kinds of terrorism apart from the IRA, including Middle Eastern groups and incidents such as the attacks on the Israeli Embassy and a Jewish centre last year. But he said hundreds of officers were no longer needed to guard central London.

Sponsored colleges to focus on languages

BY JOHN O'LEARY
EDUCATION EDITOR

A NETWORK of government-sponsored language colleges was announced yesterday as part of a £60 million initiative to encourage more schools to play to their strengths.

Gillian Shephard, the Education Secretary, opened the bidding for special grants for up to 200 schools. The language centres will join 67 secondary schools already designated as technology colleges. Further specialisation in state schools is one of the Government's key education reforms.

Candidates for language grants will need to raise £100,000 in private sponsorship to qualify. Local businesses and firms with an export base are expected to be the main funding source.

In return the schools will receive money for buildings or equipment and an annual grant related to their size. Mrs Shephard, herself a linguist, said: "Speaking foreign languages is not only important for our future as a trading nation, but learning another language must be part of any balanced education."

A modern language is already part of the national curriculum, which the successful schools will continue to teach. They will also be expected to offer a wider range of languages, including possibly Japanese or Russian.

The scheme is intended to enable schools to offer their pupils more exchanges and study visits, or to teach other subjects through the medium of a foreign language.

One of the first candidates is expected to be Dartford Garmmar School, in Kent, which has already raised the necessary sponsorship. If the school is chosen, languages will occupy 20 per cent of the timetable for all pupils between the ages of 12 and 14.

Romans killed babies to limit population

BY NIGEL HAWKES, SCIENCE EDITOR

ROMAN occupiers of Britain limited the population by killing children at birth, a study of burial grounds has shown. Most of the victims were girls.

Dr Simon Mays, of English Heritage's ancient monuments laboratory, says that the burials include a disproportionate number of newborn babies. Age at death can be determined within about two weeks by measuring the skeletons' longer bones.

Dr Mays has examined 164 children's skeletons, 86 from Roman cemeteries and 78 from villas and settlements. Some will have been stillbirths or will have died from natural causes soon after birth, but a peak in deaths at about 40 weeks of gestation — the age of a full-term infant — is too clear-cut to be explained by these deaths alone, he writes in *British Archaeology*.

"The pattern holds for both the cemetery and non-cemetery sites, showing that the victims of infanticide were not always denied regular burial," he says.

The finding may help to explain the preponderance of male adult skeletons in Romano-British cemeteries. The evidence from nearly 2,400 adult skeletons shows 155 males to every 100 females.

This pattern is consistent with widespread infanticide, in which girls are more likely to be killed than boys. Dr Mays says that infanticide is probably as old as humanity, as Stone Age burials show a similar sex ratio.



Downing St resolute over celebration

VJ veterans appalled by US appeasement

BY ALAN HAMILTON

BRITISH veterans of the Far East campaign expressed disgust yesterday at President Clinton's decision to ban the term VJ-Day — Victory over Japan — from American commemorations marking the 50th anniversary of the end of the Second World War.

Downing Street, however, said Britain had no plans to bow to Japanese sensibilities and that the term VJ-Day, in common use for half a century, would be applied to British events marking the anniversary in August. Air Vice-Marshal Sir Bernard Chacksfield, chairman of the Burma Star Association, which represents 17,000 survivors of the war against Japan, said that his organisation had made strong representations to John Major when the anniversary events were being planned.

"This was a victory over Japan; there can be no flannelling about. We do not feel like being mealy-mouthed in commemorating a victory that was won at such cost in lives." The American decision to bow to diplomatic pressure and name the commemorations simply End of the War was disgusting, he said.

Harold Payne, president of the Far East Prisoners of War Association, took an equally firm view. "I don't care a sausage what other countries do; we are British, and to us VJ is victory over Japan. Why should we change it out of consideration for the Japanese? They did not give much consideration to us when we were their prisoners of war." There was still a strong anti-Japanese feeling within his association's 68 branches.

The Royal British Legion said yesterday that it had "no problem" with the term VJ-Day. The Japanese Embassy in London refused to be drawn into the controversy, saying that the manner and naming of commemorations was a matter for individual governments. An embassy spokesman denied that Tokyo had applied diplomatic pressure, but the fact remains that Australia and New Zealand have opted for "Victory in the Pacific" as the title of their events, and Canada has opted for "Canada Remembers".

The date of Germany's surrender, May 8, 1945, is known as Victory in — not over — Europe and the Japanese apparently believe they have been singled out in terms of semantics.

During the early planning stages of the British commemorations, veterans' associations made it abundantly plain to the Prime Minister that the veterans would refuse to parade if a single Japanese representative was present at the official events. "I don't think they would want to be there anyway; they would lose face by admitting that they started the war, and lost it." Sir Bernard said.

Leading article, page 19



Boddice: joined the RAF aged 17



Allen: last officer to fly with Boddice



Eric Boddice, left, and Aubrey Allen, reminiscing over their war years after 48 years out of touch



The plane crashed by Mr Boddice in front of Mr Allen

Spitfire pilots enjoy doorstep reunion

TWO Second World War Spitfire pilots were reunited after 48 years when they found that they lived less than a mile apart. Eric Boddice and Aubrey Allen had flown together in 72 Squadron but lost contact when they were demobbed in 1947.

It was only last week when they were told of a squadron reunion next month that the two former RAF pilots realised they lived half a mile from each other. Yesterday Mr Boddice, 71, said: "A friend who was helping to organise the reunion told me there was a bloke who didn't live too far away from me who needed a lift. It was only when I phoned Aubrey that I realised who it was. I was absolutely amazed when he told me he lived literally down the road. He's been living there for 20 years and I've been here for the past seven but we never bumped into each other."

Mr Allen realised who his near neighbour was only when Mr Boddice reminded him of an incident in Austria. Aubrey, 71, of Hagley, said: "Eric told me when he phoned that he was the maniac who crashed his Spitfire when making a landing during training operations in 1947.

"He was a flight sergeant and I was his superior flying officer and I remembered watching him make a right cock-up as he landed, ruining one of our aircraft."

The reunion has also turned up Mr Allen's aircraft engineer, who lives a few miles away in Solihull.

Criminals join hunt for rapist

BY PAUL WILKINSON

CRIMINALS have joined the public in telephoning the police with information in the hunt for a man thought to be responsible for 11 sex attacks in Leeds within the past month.

Detective Inspector Roy Kent said that more than 60 calls had been received from the public. "The fact that known criminals have contacted us with information illustrates how even they hate to see this sort of thing happening."

The attacker's only rape victim said yesterday that she felt no bitterness towards him. The 45-year-old woman, who was forced into a disused garage at knifepoint on Friday night, said: "I just feel sorry for him. He must be a lonely man to go to such desperate measures for sex."

She added: "I realised when he drew the knife that the only thing I could do was to go with him. He was very strong and agile. If I had resisted strongly I would probably not be here today."

The man has been called the "hippie rapist" by police because of his 1960s-style clothing. They believe that the same man is responsible for eight indecent assaults on teenage girls outside a Roman Catholic school last month and three attacks, culminating in the rape, on Friday.

Terrace ban for fan who threw turnip

A FOOTBALL fan who threw a turnip in front of the former England manager Graham Taylor was fined £60 yesterday and banned from soccer grounds for three months.

Craig Allen, 27, a Bolton Wanderers supporter, threw the vegetable on to the pitch when his team played Wolverhampton Wanderers, managed by Mr Taylor, who was nicknamed "Turnip Head" by a tabloid newspaper after a string of England defeats.

Allen, a scaffolder, pleaded guilty at Bolton Magistrates' Court to throwing an offensive article during a game at Bolton's ground, Burnden Park, in February.

Steven Sargeant, for the prosecution, said: "The Wolves manager was just about to take his seat at the touchline when police officers saw three turnips land on the playing area near where he was sitting." Stewards identified Allen, of Bromley Cross, Bolton, who told police: "I only threw one."

Allen, who defended himself, told the magistrates that a friend had bought the turnips: "I am not a football hooligan or a yob. I realise what I did was irresponsible and wrong. There was no malice or intention to injure anyone. It was a bit of a joke which backfired."

He said after the hearing: "It could not have come at a worst time. Bolton are doing very well this season."

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The lecture, chaired by David Marquand, Professor of Politics at Sheffield University, will be held on Monday March 13, 1995 at 7.30 pm at Church House Conference Centre, Great Smith Street, Westminster SW1.

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Archbishop links marriage breakdown to no-hope men

By Ruth Gledhill
Religion Correspondent


Habgood: support for no-fault divorce

THE breakdown of marriage was linked to women's emancipation and the rising number of young men regarded as not worth marrying, the Archbishop of York said last night.

Growing economic independence of the sexes and the importance given to personal self-fulfilment were also factors. The conjunction of those factors meant the crisis in marriage was "to some extent a crisis about the role of men", Dr John Habgood said.

There was an increasing body of men "who feel that they have no particular stake in society, and who by and large are regarded by women as not worth marrying. Their plight is made worse by their having to exist on the fringes of a culture which judges success in terms of self-gratification."

The archbishop, himself happily married, said it was that group of men "who now form the most visible manifestation of a society under strain". They were "the fall-out from processes of change, which some see as having fatally and irreversibly weakened family life but which others, including myself, believe can be surmounted".

His address to theologians and religious students at Leeds University came as the Church of England nears completion of its long-awaited report on the family. Dr Habgood said that, despite the "deconstruction" of the family, most people still chose to get married, and an increasing proportion was marrying several times.

That was a reminder of the continuing importance of marriage. The archbishop criticised the minority of single parents who deliberately chose to be single and repeated his appeal for financial tax incentives for marriage. "In some instances, married couples actually fare worse in terms of tax than cohabitees," he said.

"There needs to be some socially significant distinctions between the married and those who adopt alternative forms of relationships."

Dr Habgood supported the Lord Chancellor's attempts to introduce no-fault divorce. "If fault is made the basis of divorce, then the whole issue becomes confrontational as soon as divorce proceedings are initiated," he said. "More civilised divorce procedures — not necessarily easier ones but less confrontational — could help married couples to feel that the law is on their side."

His address coincides with the publication of new Church of Scotland guidelines on the pressures and theological issues affecting marriage.

Even though popular attitudes now took little account of Christian faith, the Church must still hold fast, the guidelines state. "Far better this, however painful it may prove, than submerging our birthright in a mess of contemporary pottage."

The guidelines, to be debated by the General Assembly in May, show the extent to which the Church is split between those who condemn attempts to "swim with the tide" and those who believe the Church must come to terms with the increase in cohabitation.

On homosexuality, they say: "The Church's traditional preoccupation with people's sexual lives and their irregularities seems to many to have been put out of all proportion to the amount of concern Jesus expressed about them." Some lesbians and homosexual men saw it as unjust that lifelong celibacy should be imposed on them because of a sexual orientation they did not choose.

The Church's "preoccupation with sexual fidelity has left it failing to address the more pervasive and eroding sadness of non-relationships within marriage", the guidelines say, arguing that single people must not be undervalued or marginalised.

TIM ROOKE



Lesbian wedding celebration. Cardinal Hume said the Catholic Church respected homosexual love but not sex

Church note on gay love praised

CARDINAL Basil Hume's statement that the Roman Catholic Church respects homosexual love but not sexual acts received a mixed reaction from gay groups yesterday (Ruth Gledhill writes).

Peter Tatchell, of the gay rights activist group Out-Rage!, welcomed the note as "the strongest condemnation yet of homophobia by the Catholic Church". But he decried the reiteration of the Church's attitude that homosexual genital acts were wrong. However, the Rev Richard Kirker, general secretary of the Lesbian and Gay Christian Movement, said Cardinal Hume's argument had "a very clear and unambiguous flaw".

The Archbishop of Westminster had issued a new document affirming the right of homosexuals to be treated with dignity, respect and fairness. The eight-page note, circulated to all Roman Catholic bishops in England and Wales, said it was only homosexual acts that the Church believed were wrong, not love.

"Love between two persons, whether of the same sex or of a different sex, is to be treasured and respected," he said in his note, an expanded version of a document he published two years ago about Catholic teaching on homosexuality. The cardinal restates his support for a church teaching that describes homsexual genital acts as "objectively disordered" and "morally wrong". He continued: "To love one another, whether of the same sex or of a different sex, is to have entered the area of richest human experience. But that experience of love is spoilt, whether it is in marriage or friendship, when we do not think and act as God wills us to think and act."

Cardinal Hume issued the new note after a number of groups and individuals approached him, seeking further clarification on the Church's teaching. Mr Tatchell said he was seeking further clarification of the cardinal's statement that any systematic failure to respect the dignity of homosexuals needed to be tackled, "if necessary by appropriate legislation". He added: "We want to know which discrimination laws he might support the abolition of." The note was a "mixed bag", and would fuel homophobia by its reiteration of the Church's line against homosexual genital acts.



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Neo-Nazis persecute black vicar

By A Staff Reporter

A BLACK vicar is refusing to be intimidated by neo-Nazi signs and slogans daubed on his church. They include the words "Blood and Honour", a cross within a circle and "C18", representing Combat 18, the far-right movement at the forefront of the violence at the recent Ireland-England football match in Dublin. The numbers one and eight represent the position in the alphabet of Adolf Hitler's initials.

The Rev Henley James, vicar of St Mary the Virgin in Bearwood, Birmingham, said: "These people are just crazy but they are not going to stop me from doing my job and working my parish."

Mr James, 63, who came to Britain from Jamaica in 1955, said the attacks began about six months ago when a few windows in the church were smashed. "Then a few weeks later I saw a big celtic cross and other racist slogans sprayed with white paint on the church notice board."

Two weeks ago 15 windows were smashed and cost nearly £2,000 to repair. "Last Wednesday they wrote Combat 18 on the church door. This morning when I came in the racists had sprayed Combat 18 on the front gate again. This time it was bigger."

Mr James, a father of four who lives in Edgbaston, added: "Unless I'm attacked personally it doesn't really matter to me." However, he was worried about his wife Gloria, 59. "I'm capable of defending myself, but my wife is the weak link in the chain. I don't know what would happen if she was attacked."

Posters for travel firm went too far

By Lin Jenkins

POSTERS for Club 18-30 holidays for young adults were offensive and irresponsible because they encouraged sex and drinking, the Advertising Standards Authority ruled yesterday.

More than 450 complaints were received about the campaign. One poster had the headline "Girls. Can we interest you in a package holiday?" above a photograph of a man with a prominent bulge in his boxer shorts.

Club 18-30 said that the £250,000 six-week campaign, which ended last month, boosted bookings by 36 per cent. The campaign, devised by Saatchi & Saatchi, reflected the essence of its holidays through a humour and colloquialism that only their broad-minded target market would understand.

The authority said that the campaign reached people outside the target market and it upheld the complaints.

The authority also criticised an Air Miles advertisement offering a "dirty weekend" in Paris after complaints that it was sleazy. It was headed: "Free from Air Miles, a dirty weekend that'll make her THINK you're filthy rich."

The advertisement featured a man and woman embracing on a bedroom balcony. The authority agreed with complaints that it portrayed women as cheap, materialistic and dependent on men's spending power.

Air Miles said the promotion was romantic and tongue-in-cheek and did not encourage adultery, but agreed to withdraw it.

Golf-lover takes late swing at club signs

A GOLFER left £1,000 in his will to pay for the removal of signs that spoilt his pastime. James Broomer objected to signs that ask players "to avoid slow play", "repair pitch marks" and "rake bunkers".

He made the conditional bequest to Brough Golf Club, Hull, in his £365,459 will published yesterday. "Such signs are unnatural on a private course; insulting to reasonable golfers and ineffective in persuading unreasonable golfers to behave with consideration for others," he wrote.

Mr Broomer, of Goole, Humberside, died in November aged 67. His son Charles said: "He was a lawyer, so I wouldn't call him colourful, but he was highly respected, sensible, very considerate and well-liked." Bill Burleigh, general manager of the club, said Mr Broomer's donation was "very generous". It would be discussed with the president and captain "to decide in which way we should move".

Mr Broomer, who is survived by his widow Averil and two other children, also bequeathed an unconditional £1,000 to Selby Golf Club.

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Major wins tribute for firm grip on government

BY NIGEL WILLIAMSON, WHITEHALL CORRESPONDENT

JOHN MAJOR is not a Prime Minister who can be manipulated by his civil servants, the former head of his policy unit said yesterday in a robust defence of his style of government.

Sarah Hogg, who left her Downing Street job last year, portrayed Mr Major as one of the great reforming prime ministers and a man whose instinct was always to question the advice of his officials.

Lady Hogg said that Downing Street officials had had to learn that Mr Major was "not a box ticker" — a reference to the Civil Service practice of inviting ministers to record their approval of documents by ticking an attached form. "He is not content to accept official advice. Lack of experience is what gives power to civil servants."

In a lunchtime lecture at the Royal Geographical Society in London, Lady Hogg praised Mr Major's pragmatism and appeared implicitly to criticise the style of his predecessor, Baroness Thatcher. "Pragmatism is a much underrated virtue," she said. "Keeping one's options open is no mean skill. Caution is a virtue in itself."

Without direct reference to the Government's present difficulties, Lady Hogg confronted the criticism that policy is dictated by short-termism. If it was, she suggested, that is inevitable and no bad thing. Government policy has to be about "responding as much as initiating. Circumstance is a great enemy of consistency."

As a journalist and columnist, Lady Hogg criticised the media's attitude towards policy making. "Once a policy has been enunciated, the media's interest is almost solely in deviation from it," she said. Government needed to have a philosphy "but there is every reason why it should not have a policy for everything".

Speaking of her time in the Downing Street policy unit, Lady Hogg said that one of its most important roles was to act as "a sounding board for ministers so they do not suffer embarrassment or rebuff by the Prime Minister".

In Cabinet Mr Major would happily spend an hour going round the entire table allowing every minister his say, "so that no minister afterwards can claim not to be signed up to a decision". But much of Cabinet was taken up with "reporting rather than debating, congratulating rather than arguing".

Lady Hogg rejected, however, the view of one official who told her when she arrived in the policy unit that there were only two things for ministers to say in Cabinet: "Look Daddy no hands", or "Look Daddy, me too".

Strong departments and ministers introduced pluralism into government, she said. Sometimes it produced tension and disputes but presiding over them was the Treasury, like some huge Whitehall babysitter whose role was to see what the children were doing "and tell them they mustn't".

A "strong, central view" was then formulated by the Prime Minister. Mr Major's achievement centred on a coherent programme of open government, market testing, value for money, league tables and the Citizen's Charter. The "glue" that held it together had been formed by Mr Major's early experience as a Lambeth councillor. "The core of his determination to change public services goes back to his time in south London dealing with housing cases." She denied press reports that she had been the architect of the Citizen's Charter and said that the idea had been Mr Major's.

Mr Major had not been sufficiently credited for shedding more light on the workings of government than ever before. He had brought about disclosure of the identity and membership of previously secret Cabinet committees and had approved the publication of minutes of the monthly meetings between the Chancellor and the governor of the Bank of England. "Mr Major has done more to deliver quality in government and health in the economy than this country has seen in a generation," she said.



Hogg: "Caution is a virtue in itself"

Labour 'is living in ideological cul-de-sac'

BY ALICE THOMSON
POLITICAL REPORTER

THE Government last night strenuously rebuffed claims that it is ignoring women's issues and accused Labour of living in "an ideological cul-de-sac of trendy posturing and political correctness".

Replying to an Opposition-led debate on women's issues, David Hunt, chairman of the Cabinet committee on women, said that Labour was interested only in quick fixes. He condemned the party's policy of women-only quotas for the selection of Labour parliamentary candidates, saying: "Labour's fixation with window dressing just grows more embarrassing."

Mr Hunt, the Citizen's Charter minister, warned Labour not to confuse "gender politics with gesture politics", insisting that positive discrimination in favour of women could have "diametrically the opposite effect".

Earlier, at Prime Minister's question time, Mr Major said: "The changing circumstances and improved opportunities of women, across a range of circumstances — not least public appointments, for which the Government is directly responsible — have improved dramatically."

But Labour accused the Tories of being far too complacent. Clare Short, Labour spokesman for women's issues, said during the debate: "The Government's encouragement of low-paid work and the lack of a national childcare strategy traps many women into badly paid part-time work and permanently blights their life opportunities." There was a bigger pay gap between men and women in Britain than in any other EU country, and British full-timers worked the longest hours in Europe.

"The failure to promote women's equality at work and family-friendly employment policies which enable men and women to work and care for their families, is costing us enormous amounts in benefit expenditure," she said, adding that women at work would contribute to the Exchequer through taxes.

Mr Hunt replied with a barrage of figures showing improved opportunities for women. "Over the last 10 years the number of women in employment has increased by 1.369 million." There had been a 14 per cent increase in women working full-time and a 19 per cent increase in those working part-time.

In the Civil Service the proportion of women senior executives had risen from 6.4 per cent to 15 per cent. He said: "Of course it is still a long way to go, but we have made steady progress."

Earlier yesterday, Gordon Brown, the Shadow Chancellor, told a Westminster news conference that only Labour would come up with a national childcare strategy. "The economic policy of the next Labour government will be about the needs and aspirations of women just as much as men," he said.



IN PARLIAMENT

YESTERDAY: In the Commons, questions to employment ministers and the Prime Minister were followed by a debate initiated by Labour on "the position of women in Britain", opened by Clare Short, Labour spokesman on women's issues. The Lords debated the Environment Bill, report, and a call to encourage the restoration of democracy in Nigeria.

TODAY: The Commons will sit at 10.00am for backbench debates starting with The Prince's Youth Business Trust, opened by David Shaw (C, Dover) and continuing with women employees' wage levels, opened by Anne Campbell (Cambridge). At 2.30pm, questions to trade and industry ministers this will be followed by the Prevention of Terrorism (Temporary Provisions) Act (Continuance) Order and the Appropriation (Northern Ireland) Order. The Lords will debate the 1966 European inter-governmental conference and the Legitimated Persons (Succession to Titles) Bill.

Blair team in struggle over new Clause 4

BY JILL SHERMAN

SENIOR Labour officials are making a final effort to woo Scottish constituency parties after signs that the unions are evenly split on Tony Blair's move to rewrite Clause Four.

It now looks certain that the three biggest unions will vote differently at the Scottish party conference on Friday, which could be enough to defeat Mr Blair. The trade unions have 70 per cent of the vote and the constituencies 30 per cent. Party strategists say the union vote is too close to call and they need about half of the constituencies to back Mr Blair to win in Inverness.

The public service union Unison (with 12 per cent of the vote) is expected to support the Labour leader, but the Transport and General Workers Union (14 per cent) will oppose him and the GMB general union (12 per cent) will abstain. The smaller unions are almost evenly lined up in voting strength on both sides.

Earlier this year 24 out of 26 resolutions submitted to the Scottish party conference from constituencies were against changng the party's commitment to nationalisation. However, many have since changed their minds and submitted amendments.

Two amendments have been suggested for a pro-change motion, both of which are acceptable to the leadership. One, drafted by Unison, says that Clause Four should reaffirm a "strong commitment to public ownership where justified on grounds of efficiency and equity". A second amendment, by Cunninghame North party, says that Labour's core objectives should be to "cast out poverty, nurture enterprise and promote common ownership".

Tories may regret failing to regulate the regulators

RIDDELL ON POLITICS

Forget Lords Weinstock, Hanson and King. The man who has done more than any of these titans to reshape British industry over the past decade is Professor Stephen Littlechild, the electricity regulator. Well before he decided to reopen the review of price controls on the distribution companies, he had helped to determine the structure of the privatised telecommunications, gas and coal industries. He and his fellow regulators have become the arbiters of the fortunes of companies and their shareholders, and of the prices paid by their consumers, for which they are only loosely accountable.

Mr Littlechild's announcement triggered a sharp fall in the prices of electricity shares, including those of the two power generation companies, on which dealings had started on Monday after the offer last week. While Mr Littlechild only reached the decision, and informed the Trade and Industry Department, on Monday, Tim Eggar, the Industry Minister, admitted there had been prior discussions. So the question is the familiar one of who knew what, and when. It is very embarassing for ministers.

The exchanges yesterday between John Major and Tony Blair about the role of the utilities' regulators underlined how much uncertainty there is about their role and relationship with ministers. The regulators were given a semi-independent status as part of a compromise needed to protect consumers from what were, and are, still largely monopolies, while reassuring investors that ministers would not interfere in the companies' financial affairs. The exact legal position of the regulators has varied from industry to industry. Much has also depended on their individual views and approaches. Mr Littlechild, who advised on the structure of telecommunications before its privatisation, has always put the highest priority on promoting competition to aid the consumer. This led to the "dash for gas" and had a key effect on the wave of pit closures which dramatically reduced the size of the coal industry. Clare Spottiswoode, the gas regulator, has interpreted her role very differently from her predecessor and has resisted pressures for additional conservation and energy saving obligations to be placed on the industry.

There are advantages in stressing these economic criteria and leaving Governments to decide whether to impose social duties such as supplying remote areas. But even within the specific remit of encouraging competition, there is a lot of scope for discretion, as is being seen now. Indeed, the reopening of the price review follows the disclosure that Northern Electric could find large amounts of cash to hand back to shareholders in the attempt to defeat the bid from Trafalgar House. Mr Littlechild's original price decision last August appears to have been too generous.

In Mr Major's view, Mr Littlechild's announcement shows how wide and flexible the regulators' powers are. But the Government does not want them to be too wide. Only last Thursday, Mr Major was resisting demands from Mr Blair that the law should be changed to give the regulator the power to cut prices where pay deals for senior executives are excessive. The Prime Minister said the regulators' job is to protect the interests of the consumer and he did not propose to extend that role.

The regulators' powers are not clear cut, but wide and discretionary. Labour leaders believe that the way to control the monopoly utilities is not by taking them back into public ownership but by changing the way the regulators operate and widening their remit to cover social and environmental duties. Yesterday's fuss shows what could happen. The Tories may end up regretting that the Government has not defined the powers of the regulators more precisely. They are in theory accountable to ministers and hence to Parliament. But that begs many questions of how ministers exercise influence and how regulators interpret their briefs. At present, they are both an industrial and constitutional anomaly.

PETER RIDDELL

Perth faces bloodiest battle

BY GILLIAN BOWDITCH, SCOTLAND CORRESPONDENT

THE constituency of Perth and Kinross appears to be staunchly Tory. The salmon-rich Tay sweeps through the countryside and the land is home to some of the nation's wealthiest fruit and livestock farmers.

The Earl of Mansfield, who resides at Scone Palace, is a constituent and, come the Glorious Twelfth, the sound of shotguns and the barking of gun dogs are to be heard throughout the region.

Although it is the gateway to the less prosperous Highlands, the land and property prices in the area reflect Perth's good transport links with Edinburgh and Glasgow and its reputation as a hunting shooting and fishing paradise.

But the forthcoming by-election caused by the death of Sir Nicholas Fairbairn, Tory MP for 21 years, will be as bloody as any fought during John Major's premiership. Defeat in the Conservative heartland of Scotland and in a seat which has been in Tory hands for 72 years would be a blow to the Government, reducing the number of Scottish Tory MPs to ten. It would also augur badly for more marginal Tory Scottish seats such as Ayr, with a majority of 85, and Edinburgh West, with 879.

The Tories are pinning their hopes on John Godfrey, 31, a little-known merchant banker, whom Sir Nicholas, shortly before his death, had described as "a clone" and "unelectable". It should be a two-horse race with the SNP.

A decision on who will fight the seat for the SNP is expected tomorrow. The Labour candidate is Douglas Alexander, 27, a trainee solicitor from Edinburgh who has worked as a researcher for Gordon Brown. The Liberal Democrats will choose a candidate at the weekend.

☐ General election, 1992: Sir N Fairbairn (C), 20,195; Ms R Cunningham (SNP), 18,101; M J Rolfe (Lab), 6,267; M Black (LD), 5,714. C maj: 2,094.



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US officials shield Claes from press over bribe claims

FROM IAN BRODIE IN WASHINGTON

AMERICAN officials yesterday reaffirmed their confidence in Willy Claes as Secretary-General of Nato, but refused to discuss his alleged role in a bribery scandal during his former career in the Belgian Cabinet.

Mr Claes was in Washington for talks with President Clinton over the eastward expansion of Nato and the continuing crisis in the former Yugoslavia. His visit was dogged by questions over allegations that, as Economics Minister, Mr Claes knew his Socialist Party was paid $1.7 million (£1.04 million) by the Italian aircraft maker, Agusta, in exchange for a contract to build 46 helicopters for the Belgian Army.

Christine Shelly, the State Department's spokeswoman, said: "We have full confidence in Mr Claes as Secretary-General." The department went out of its way to protect Mr Claes from questions by banning journalists other than photographers and cameramen from attending a photo opportunity that preceded his working lunch with Warren Christopher, the Secretary of State.

One State Department official said: "We feel that Claes has done a commendable job as Secretary-General and we continue to support him in that capacity. We would not want to do anything that would make the difficulties he is experiencing worse than they are."

Other officials said Washington would see what Mr Claes does about the allegations and then support his decision. They left the impression that they would rather not have to cope with the resignation of a secretary-general when the alliance has enough problems coping with its eastern growth and its inability to resolve the civil war in the Balkans.

Mr Claes has only been Secretary-General for five months, with scant opportunity to build the rapport in Washington enjoyed by his predecessors, Manfred Wörner and Lord Carrington. He has denied any wrongdoing, but had to retract an earlier statement that he knew nothing about the helicopter affair.

Mr Clinton told Mr Claes of his readiness to send a letter to President Yeltsin to allay the Russian leader's concerns over the addition of former Warsaw Pact members that will extend Nato to the borders of Russia. Mr Yeltsin has delayed taking the formal steps necessary to establish ties with Nato.

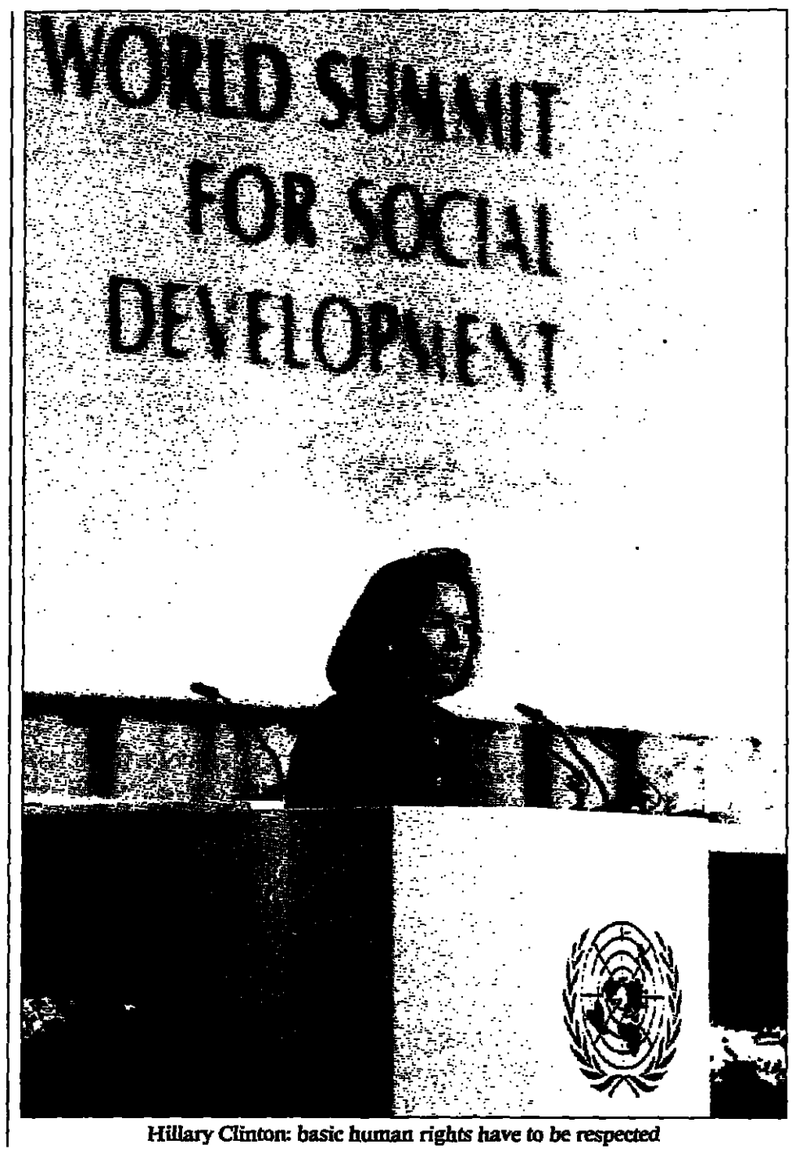
Mr Clinton and Mr Claes also hoped to dissuade President Tudjman of Croatia from expelling 12,000 United Nations peacekeepers. Yesterday the State Department put an optimistic spin on talks in Zagreb where Richard Holbrooke, assistant US Secretary of State, was said to have failed to change Dr Tudjman's mind. An official said accounts "depicting this mission as a bust" were not entirely correct: the talks were more encouraging than initially reported.

Pentagon planners have been looking at the need for as many as 50,000 Nato troops to cover the withdrawal of peacekeepers from the Balkans.

☐ **Brussels:** Police have searched the Brussels offices of the French defence firm, Dassault, and its Belgian unit in the defence bribery scandal.

A spokesman for Dassault Belgique Aviation, a holding company that owns the majority stake in Dassault's Belgian aeronautical engineering company Sabca, said police searched the company's offices on Monday and took away documents: "I can confirm police visited our offices. We gave [them] all the information requested," Jacques Detemmerman, Sabca's director general, said.

The inquiry widened after investigators were told of a payment of ten million French francs (£1.2 million), linked by Belgian media to Dassault for a different contract in 1989, into the Swiss bank account of a former Flemish Socialist official. *(Reuter)*



Hillary Clinton: basic human rights have to be respected

Summit told rights the key to progress

Copenhagen: Hillary Clinton, America's First Lady, emerged from months of self-imposed seclusion yesterday when she told delegates at a United Nations "poverty" summit that it was time their governments reconsidered their social policies.

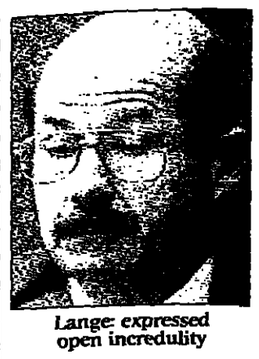
"To meet the goals of this summit, governments will have to go about their business in new ways, they will have to rethink how to protect their most vulnerable populations in a time of shrinking resources and accelerated global competition," she told the World Summit for Social Development.

"They will have to respect basic human rights and that includes the rights of women and workers to be protected from exploitation and abuse, and they will have to create conditions that encourage individual initiative and a vibrant civic life."

The summit, which about 120 heads of state or government are expected to join by the weekend, is billed as the biggest-ever gathering of world leaders.

Differences remain between rich and poor countries over the wording of clauses on debt reduction and labour laws.

Denmark, the host nation, said yesterday it was writing off one billion Danish crowns (about £112 million) in loans to Angola, Nicaragua, Ghana, Zimbabwe, Bolivia and Egypt in an attempt to inspire other rich countries to do the same. *(Reuter)*


Lange: expressed open incredulity

Simpson detective scoffs at 'Mafia hit'

FROM GILES WHITTELL IN LOS ANGELES

EXTRAVAGANT theories that Nicole Brown Simpson and Ronald Goldman were assassinated in a drug-related Mafia hit have been deflated by the deadpan testimony of a Los Angeles detective.

Johnnie Cochran, O.J. Simpson's defence lawyer, was on a mission to discredit police methods and trustworthiness when Detective Tom Lange resumed the witness stand in the Simpson murder trial on Monday. But he elicited from the detective something close to ridicule.

When Mr Cochran asked the veteran, poker-faced investigator if he had considered whether Mr Goldman might have been targeted by hitmen, the response was one of open incredulity.

Mr Cochran then asked if Detective Lange had considered the possibility that anyone other than Mr Simpson could have carried out last June's killings.

The detective replied: "I had absolutely no other evidence that would point me in any other direction."

Defence lawyers meanwhile hope to exploit confessions in a book by Faye Resnick, a friend of Ms Brown's, that she and her circle used recreational drugs including cocaine.

Ms Resnick's book has not been allowed as evidence, forcing the defence into a tactic decried by members of Mr Goldman's family as "innuendo by cross-examination".

Mr Simpson denies killing Ms Brown and Mr Goldman. The trial continues today when another detective is due to be questioned.

Clinton considers easing Cuba sanctions

BY DAVID ADAMS
LATIN AMERICA CORRESPONDENT

IN THE hope of encouraging wider economic reforms in Cuba, Washington is discussing proposals to relax American pressure on President Castro.

But observers say such a move could put the White House on a collision course with a powerful anti-Castro lobby in Congress, led by the North Carolina Republican, Jesse Helms, the conservative hardliner who heads the Senate Foreign Relations Committee. Mr Helms recently proposed a bill to toughen existing sanctions on Cuba, which has been attracting considerable support. Apparently seeking to relegate the importance of the policy shift, a White House spokesman said Mr Clinton had not studied the matter personally, adding that the proposals were modest.

The proposals would lift a ban on exiles sending cash to relatives on the island, as well as easing severe travel restrictions, both sanctions imposed at the height of last summer's exodus of more than 30,000 people across the Florida strait.

The White House emphasised that this would not affect the nature of a wider economic embargo imposed more than 30 years ago during the Cuban missile crisis.

"There's no review or change in our view that the embargo of Cuba is an effective tool to convince Castro of the wisdom of political and economic change," Mike McCurry, the White House press secretary said.

However, it is known that some Clinton advisers do not believe in the embargo. They support a bolder policy of trying to coax greater reforms out of Dr Castro by offering to lift the embargo in a calibrated fashion. They say it is time to test Dr Castro's reluctant acceptance of capitalist-style reform, and to see if he is prepared to consider political reforms.

Despite trying to lessen the impact of the proposals, Mr McCurry appeared to confirm that the Administration is considering a new initiative: "What we're trying to do is . . . see if there is some way we can encourage Castro to make these positive steps toward democracy and reform."

Pence look after themselves

FROM IAN BRODIE IN WASHINGTON

DON PENCE was a self-employed house painter and his wife Shirley worked as a secretary for an insurance company. But not any more.

Mrs Pence telephoned her boss in Phoenix, Arizona, to tell him she had received a better offer — a jackpot of $101.8 million (£62.5 million) she and her husband won in the Powerball lottery, covering 17 states and Washington DC. After taxes, they will collect close to $3.4 million a year for 20 years. Their odds of winning had been one in 55 million. It was America's fifth-largest lottery payout, the biggest being $118.8 million won in California four years ago.

"We've worked hard all our lives and now we don't have to," said Mrs Pence, 55, announcing her immediate retirement. Her husband, 56, said he would be turning in his paint brushes. Before the win, the couple had worried that they would never have enough to stop working. Mrs Pence joined an insurance agency in January after she was laid off by another company.

The couple, married for 38 years with one daughter and two grandchildren, bought $5 of tickets from a grocery and let the computer pick their numbers.

Mrs Pence followed her custom of reading the prayer in her local paper before checking the lottery results printed below. The prayer had said: "Lord, you remind us that an unexpected task may hold a hidden blessing. Amen."



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TI-105

Daughter claims Mandelas to divorce

FROM MICHAEL HAMLYN IN JOHANNESBURG

PRESIDENT MANDELA and his estranged wife, Winnie, are "most likely" to divorce, according to their daughter, Zinzi. She said that elements within the African National Congress are putting pressure on him to cut ties with his wife.

Mrs Mandela-Hlongwane, 34, gives a series of insights into the relationship between the President and his wife, Deputy Minister of Arts, Culture, Science and Technology, in the black women's magazine, *Thandi*.

"My father and mother don't see each other any more," she said. "They never visit me at the same time. They don't speak to me about their problems, as if they don't exist for each other.

"The sad thing is that nobody realises that my father is very lonely. I often go to see him at his home and very often I find him alone. Alone, eating at that big table." But she added that her father always supported her mother unconditionally. She also said she did not believe that the "Stompie affair", when Mrs Mandela was convicted of complicity in the kidnap and assault of 14-year-old Stompie Moeketsie Seipei, played any role in their breakup.

"The first time my father and mother spoke about divorce, he was still in prison. He believed my mother unconditionally. He thought that people tried to damage him through my mother.

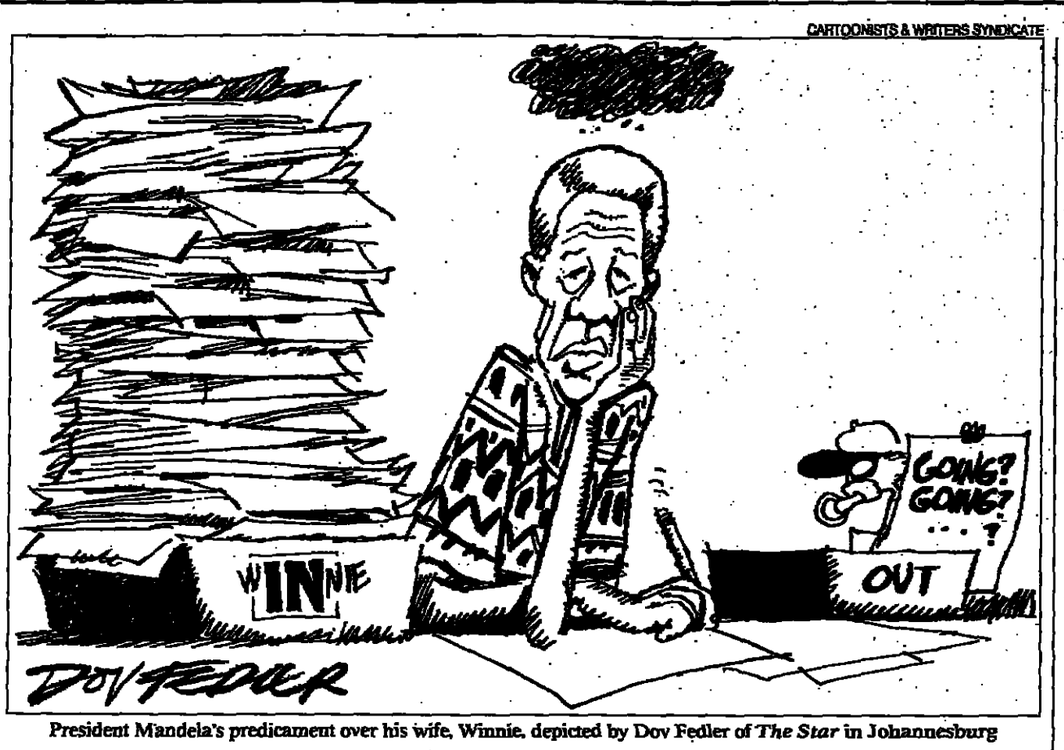
"Officially they are not yet divorced. But most likely that will come about, for I sense pressure on him to distance himself definitely from her. It is people within the ANC who consider that to be better. Closing the Winnie Mandela period will also be an end to the militant part of his life. That is their idea."

Mrs Mandela-Hlongwane, now married to a Johannesburg businessman, has four children, each by a different father. She was named by police after the recent police raid on her mother's house as a potential beneficiary of 50 per cent of the shares in a building contracting firm as a kickback for her mother's influence in winning contracts for low-cost housing in the townships.

Mrs Mandela-Hlongwane insisted: "She still loves my father. The expression on her face when she hears something is going on about him ... it's panic, still."

Mrs Mandela is defying her husband's authority once again by refusing to meet Thabo Mbeki, the First Deputy President who has been asked by the President to deal with the problem. A letter hand-delivered to Mr Mbeki informed him of her refusal to meet him until the court application challenging the validity of the police raid on her house has run its course.

Other people involved are beginning to run for cover. Sydney Mufamadi, Minister of Police, said that he had no prior knowledge of the raid, adding: "It appears the manner in which the police conducted themselves during the search was rather dramatic. The drama was uncalled for." He said that he had instructed George Fivaz, the National Police Commissioner, to investigate. The inquiry will report on the manner of the raid and recommend how future searches should be conducted.



President Mandela's predicament over his wife, Winnie, depicted by Dov Fedler of *The Star* in Johannesburg

Israel tries to stop east Jerusalem visit by British minister

FROM CHRISTOPHER WALKER IN JERUSALEM

THE British Government has become embroiled in a diplomatic row with Israel, involving the status of Jerusalem, on the eve of John Major's visit to Israel and the autonomous Gaza Strip, which begins next Sunday.

Israeli sources said yesterday that diplomatic representations had been made to London in a bid to prevent a senior member of the Prime Minister's delegation, Douglas Hogg, the Minister of State at the Foreign Office, from visiting Orient House, the headquarters of the Palestine Liberation Organisation in annexed east Jerusalem.

In the meantime, senior Palestinian and Arab officials have been applying equal pressure on Whitehall to permit Mr Hogg's visit to the building, currently the office of Faisal Husseini, the senior PLO representative. They see such a visit as confirmation that Britain does not support Israel's annexation in 1967 of the Arab half of the holy city.

If Mr Hogg's visit proceeds as planned, it is expected to provoke fierce protests from Israel's right-wing opposition parties, which have repeatedly called on Yitzhak Rabin's Labour Government to close down Orient House. The right-wing Hebrew paper *Hatzofeh* said yesterday that Britain had ignored Israeli representations and decided to go ahead with the visit.

But Richard Dalton, the British Consul-General in east Jerusalem, said yesterday that no decision had yet been taken. Referring all enquiries to London, he said that the British proposal had been "a subject for discussion [with the Israelis] in London".

The Israeli sources acknowledged that beyond diplomatic pressure, no measures could be imposed to prevent Mr Hogg's visit. Israel argues that as the British visitors are due to spend Tuesday in Gaza, where they will call on Yassir Arafat, the Palestinian Authority chief, the visit to Orient House was unnecessary.

Israeli sources indicated that one way of resolving the dispute might be to call Mr Hogg's trip as a "courtesy visit", a tactic resorted to last month when three European Union Foreign Ministers, led by Alain Juppé of France, also insisted on visiting Orient House against the wishes of the Israeli Government.

Orthodox Jews try to ban gay films show

BY CHRISTOPHER WALKER

AN ORTHODOX Jewish group has appealed to the Israeli Supreme Court in a last-minute bid to try and halt Jerusalem's first Gay and Lesbian Film Festival, due to open in the holy city tomorrow and run until Saturday.

Enulla Shamir, the festival organiser, said: "We have already heard rumours that ultra-Orthodox leaders are planning demonstrations." The festival is being staged at the Cinematheque overlooking the walls of Jerusalem's Old City. The organisers are determined to hold it "even if we must have police and private guards brought in".

Chaim Miller, the Deputy Mayor of Jerusalem and leader of the Association for the Defence of Religious Rights, urged the court to ban the screening of about 30 films, beginning with David Cronenberg's 1993 release *M. Butterfly*. He said: "It is unacceptable to have such depravation on show in the holy city. We are not in Rome or Paris, or even Tel Aviv."

Earlier, Yitzhak Levy, a Knesset deputy from the opposition National Religious Party, sent an angry letter to Ehud Olmert, the Mayor of Jerusalem, demanding that the festival be banned. He said the subject matter was not fit for the public. But Eyal Sher, the deputy director of the Cinematheque, said yesterday that there was no reason to halt the festival. "This is a democracy," he said.

Religious passions over the gradual granting of greater rights for gays exploded in the Knesset last month when Professor Nahum Rackover, Israel's Deputy Attorney-General, infuriated left-wing deputies in a speech in which he equated homosexuality with bestiality. The dispute occurred during a committee debate over a proposal by Yael Dayan, the daughter of the late war hero Moshe Dayan and Israel's leading campaigner for gay rights, to grant homosexual spouses pension rights in the civil service.

WORLD SUMMARY

Dog sniffs out drugs on Briton

Tokyo: A Briton has been arrested after a Japanese customs dog detected 7lbs of cannabis in his clothing, an official said yesterday.

Police estimated the drug would have fetched 26 million yen (£172,000) in street sales. An official identified the arrested man as Sidney Alfred Clark, 44, of London. He was held at Tokyo's international airport where dogs are trained to sit down beside a passenger when they smell drugs. He faces a maximum penalty of seven years in prison. *(AP)*

Spain admits papers forged

Madrid: Spain has acknowledged that forged documents were used in the extradition from Laos on corruption charges of Luis Roldán, the fugitive former head of the Civil Guard, but insisted that the arrest had been "perfectly legal". Juan Alberto Belloch, the Justice Minister, said he was guilty of a "mistake in communication policy" by failing to disclose earlier that the documents were forged. *(AFP)*

Bid to save food Scott left behind

Wellington: A cache of food left by Robert Falcon Scott, the British explorer, in Antarctica 77 years ago may have succumbed to the polar elements, but a bid will be made to save it. Parts of the cache have been taken to Scott Base, New Zealand's main polar base, Paul Chaplin, the Antarctic Heritage Trust officer, said. *(AFP)*

Hong dong

Hong Kong: China is to build a 99-tonne bronze bell, the world's largest, in Hong Kong to ring in the takeover of the British territory. The bell, known as Huaxia Dazhong, will be completed by the end of 1996 and will be tolled on July 1, 1997 when Peking regains sovereignty. *(AFP)*.

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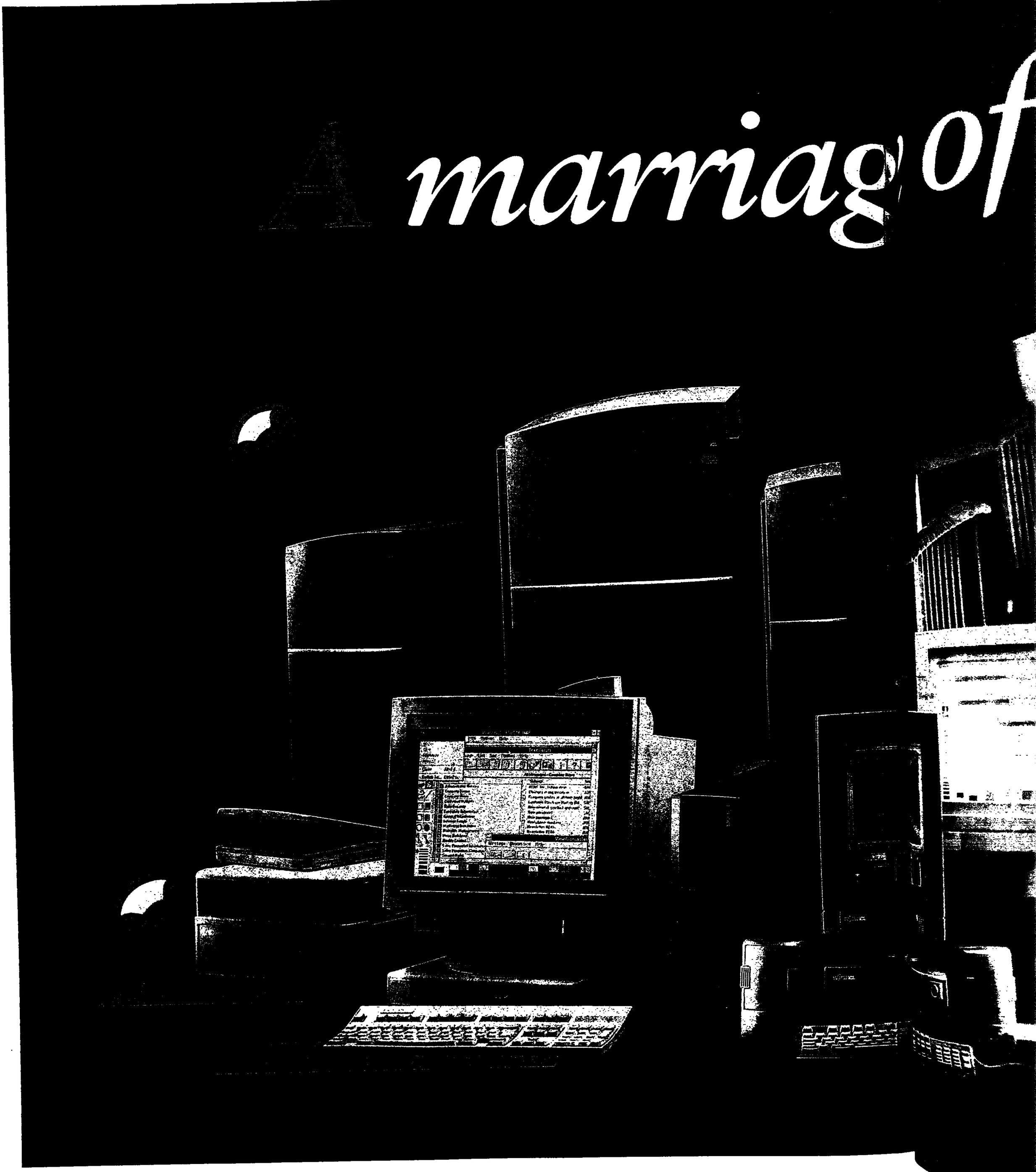
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German strikers' victory sets tone for pay settlements

FROM ROGER BOYES IN BONN

GERMAN unions and employers yesterday agreed a wage increase of just under 4 per cent, allowing the country to step back from a strike that could have crippled the economy.

The deal, clinched after a 19-hour bargaining session between Bavarian metal workers and their employers, is expected to set the tone not only for pay rises in the large engineering sector, but also in German banking, the Civil Service, chemicals and construction. It was immediately hailed as a big success by Klaus Zwickel, the head of the powerful IG Metall union. Employers were less enthusiastic but pointed out that the increase was to be stretched over two years, reducing its impact.

According to the terms of the deal, the 700,000 metal and engineering workers in Bavaria will receive an increase of 152 marks (£64) a month for the period between January and April 1995. From May 1, salaries will increase by 3.4 per cent and from November 1 by a further 3.6 per cent. The new wage contract will be valid until the end of 1996.

IG Metall had initially demanded a 6 per cent wage hike. The employers refused to present any offer until the union agreed to some flexible working practices. The unions launched strikes in dozens of factories in Bavaria, a southern state that boasts much of Germany's high-technology industries, including Daimler, Aerospace, BMW and Siemens, and found there was a great deal of public sympathy for their protests.

Small supplying companies, only just edging out of recession, started to panic and urged the main engineering employers federation to settle quickly. And so the employers eventually abandoned any attempt at securing a more elastic approach to work. Both employers and unions have now agreed to a 35-hour working week without any loss of pay.

"Nobody can be 100 per cent satisfied with a compromise," said Rainer Hildmann, the employers' negotiator. He regretted that the unions had not helped to ease the high cost of German labour and have therefore done little towards making Germany more competitive.

This could have been a wage round dedicated to creating jobs rather than increasing pay packets, Herr Hildman complained. As the deal was struck, German unemployment figures for February were released yesterday and showed that the number of jobless has dropped, despite the winter. The number of Germans officially out of work is now 3.8 million, 215,000 less than February last year. This represents an unemployment rate of 9.9 per cent compared with 10.5 per cent a year ago.

Stretching the pay settlement over two years will allow managers, especially of medium-size and smaller companies, to make reliable plans for the year ahead. And the upholding of Germany's traditional consensus model of wage bargaining will ease labour relations in the coming months.

Discussions about flexible working hours are now likely to happen outside the wage round. The main driving force is likely to be the threat of unemployment. When Volkswagen said it would have to phase out 30,000 workers, the unions swiftly agreed to a four-day working week and saved the jobs. Yesterday Herr Hildmann declared that "the cost of the wage rise could soon be felt in the form of rationalisation and further redundancy".

As far as workers were concerned, the hero of the day was Werner Neugebauer, the union negotiator. "IG Metall has kept its word, we have achieved our fundamental strike goals," he said yesterday. The strikes in some 30 Bavarian factories are continuing meanwhile until the deal has been formally approved by the work force.

Jospin would tax capital to fund jobs

FROM ADAM SAGE IN PARIS

LIONEL JOSPIN, the French Socialists' presidential candidate, yesterday ended a fruitful period of inactivity to outline a resolutely left-wing, European programme.

For the past month M Jospin, 57, has been a passive but gleeful spectator to the feuding of his Gaullist rivals, Edouard Balladur and Jacques Chirac. He knows, however, that with his call yesterday for political union within Europe and for a "tax on speculation", he will be pitched into the rough and tumble of the fray.

The former Education Minister has been quietly trying to transform himself into a credible aspirant. His efforts were plainly visible yesterday. Gone were his glasses with multi-coloured frames, replaced by sober rimless spectacles. Also absent were his double-breasted jackets, which had given way to a dark blue suit and a red tie.

The 50-page manifesto mentioned President Mitterrand just once in a send-off notable for its lack of enthusiasm. Only on Europe did the candidate place himself firmly in M Mitterrand's slipstream, arguing for an extension of majority voting to all areas in which the European Union has decision-making powers.

M Jospin said the single European currency should be introduced as soon as possible, although the 1997 deadline was no longer realistic.

His domestic policies are likely to prove most controversial, however. In a throwback to M Mitterrand's early days in the Elysée and a clear break with his party's policies over the past seven years, M Jospin said: "The economy must be placed at the service of man, and not man at the service of the economy."

This meant a cut in the working week from 39 to 37 hours, a refusal to scale down France's expensive social security system, a public sector job creation programme and a reduction in the payroll taxes on low salaries that many see as the main cause of the 12.6 per cent unemployment rate.

M Jospin said these measures would be financed by a new tax on short-term movements of international capital and the extension of income tax to capital earnings.



Emotions show on the faces of two US veterans yesterday as they recall the battle for the Remagen Bridge

Veterans recall shock of Remagen battle

FROM ROGER BOYES IN REMAGEN

MICHAEL CHINCHER raised his hand in soldierly salute as the American and German flags were paraded yesterday in front of the remains of the Remagen Bridge which 50 years ago was the scene of a dramatic battle for the Rhine.

"It was fantastic, the bridge was still standing," said the bespectacled Armoured Division veteran. "We never imagined that the bridge could still be there but when we saw it and took it, we raced over."

Neither Mr Chincher nor his former enemies, such as the Germans Flak (anti-aircraft) soldier Heinz Schwarz, were in any doubt that the taking of Remagen Bridge was a decisive turning point in the war in Western Europe. Herr Schwarz still seemed to be suffering from some of the shock of that day. Even now the German side of the Rhine, the steep 600ft flat cliff-face of Erpel, looks impregnable. "We were sure nothing could happen to us," said Herr Schwarz, shaking his head.

On paper, the Germans defending the bridge had more than 1,000 men at their disposal, but only a company of 36 experienced men could be relied upon. By the time that US Lieutenant Karl Timmermann had sprinted over the bridge — the first allied officer across the Rhine — he was swamped by Germans wanting to surrender.

Brass bands played and prayers were said yesterday for the dead in both German and English. After brief speeches, on a sunny but cold day, the few hundred veterans and well-wishers started to cross the river — by ferry. The bridge, which collapsed ten days after its capture, has never been rebuilt.



A photograph taken from a spotter plane captures the smoke of battle hanging over the bridge 50 years ago

British resolute, page 7
Leading article, page 19

Yeltsin rival threatens to quit



Luzhkov: says Yeltsin acted unlawfully

FROM RICHARD BEESTON IN MOSCOW

YURI LUZHKOV, Moscow's powerful Mayor, yesterday threatened to resign unless the Kremlin reinstated two key city law enforcement officers sacked by President Yeltsin for failing to halt the capital's crime wave.

In a potentially explosive showdown the Mayor, tipped by many as a likely successor to the Russian President, said that he would quit unless the sackings were reversed.

Vladimir Pankratov, a Police General, and Gennadi Ponomaryov, the Prosecutor-General, were dismissed by President Yeltsin on Monday after last week's mafia-style murder of a television personality.

The President laid much of the blame for the murder on the Moscow authorities, who have been accused of failing to control organised crime.

However, Mr Luzhkov, has insisted that his officers were being made scapegoats and suggested the sackings were made to undermine his authority.

Yesterday he made an unprecedented attack on the Kremlin leadership and accused President Yeltsin of acting unlawfully.

UN expulsion threatens Balkans with worst conflict yet

BY EVE-ANN PRENTICE, DIPLOMATIC CORRESPONDENT

AS Serbs and Croats prepare to fight each other across both Bosnia and Croatia at the same time, a conflict is looming in the former Yugoslavia that promises to be even more catastrophic and unmanageable than the battles of the past four years.

The spark expected to ignite the new war is the expected expulsion of United Nations peacekeepers from Croatia after their mandate expires, which means they are unlikely to be present this time to provide succour to civilian victims. President Tudjman of Croatia is angry that the UN Protection Force (Unprofor) in the former Yugoslavia has not disarmed the rebellious breakaway Serbs in the Krajina region of his republic.

As a result, he says he will not renew the UN mandate, which expires at the end of the month. If he refuses to relent, and Western diplomats are still trying to negotiate at least some form of UN presence, the peacekeepers must leave Croatia by the end of June.

Dr Tudjman's threat prompted General Ratko Mladic, the hardline Bosnian Serb commander, to threaten at the weekend to demand UN withdrawal from Sarajevo and the UN-protected enclaves in eastern Bosnia if UN troops do leave Croatia.

Kresimir Zubak, a Croat who heads the Muslim-Croat federation in Bosnia, yesterday vowed that Bosnian Croat forces would fight rebel Serbs in Croatia in any new war there. Irfan Ljubijankic, the Bosnian Foreign Minister, said that, for its part, his Government would resume fighting if peace talks failed.

All sides want more territory than they now have. They also know they can probably gain it by force faster than by negotiations and that the international community is powerless to stop them.

Mr Zubak said in Zagreb, the Croatian capital, that Bosnian Croat forces "cannot be passive if the rebel [Serb] forces in Croatia take offensive action against Croatian armed forces ... because military action would spread to Bosnia-Herzegovina". Croats and Bosnians had to be prepared for the possibility of a new war against Serbs in both countries, he said. The consequences of the peacekeepers' withdrawal from Croatia would certainly be catastrophic: the rebel Serbs living in the Krajina region of the republic would feel threatened as well as abandoned, and would probably intensify their struggle to link up with Serbs in Bosnia and Serbia. The Krajina Serbs have already come to the aid of Serbs in Bosnia in trying to expel Muslim forces from the Bihac pocket, and they would expect some reciprocal help from the Bosnian Serbs in any new fighting with Zagreb's forces. All sides seem to be pretending to shudder at the prospect of the coming conflagration while in reality arming themselves to the teeth. They are forging alliances which already cross the border between Bosnia and Croatia and threaten to expand the conflict. Serbs in Bosnia and Croatia formed a pact in February to come to one another's aid, an agreement which is likely to stand the test of time. On Monday, Croats in the two republics promised to do the same, although their pledge may not be as strong. The Croat alliance is complicated by the federation formed between the Muslims and Croats in Bosnia, an agreement which was really a shotgun marriage forced on the two sides by America.

Mr Ljubijankic, on a two-day visit to Britain, delivered a warning to Douglas Hurd, the Foreign Secretary, reportedly saying that "if there is no further progress in the peace process, the Bosnian Government would be unable to renew the cessation of hostilities agreement (brokered by Jimmy Carter, the former US President, in December) and would have to resort to military measures".

President Milosevic of Serbia, the man most responsible for the war in the first place, sits aloof in Belgrade. The five-nation Contact Group wants him formally to recognise Bosnia and Croatia in exchange for a further lifting of sanctions against his regime. So far, however, he has refused to yield. He alone of the Balkan leaders can afford to sit and wait — and risk a new conflagration.

WHAT THE THREE SIDES WANT

☐ Serbs do not yet control all the territory they need to achieve their aim of populating a swath of land stretching from Serbia, across Bosnia and into Croatia. To do this, hardline leaders would like to drive Muslims out of Srebrenica, Zepa and Gorazde, widen the thin corridor they control in the northeast, and take control of Muslim-held Bihac.

☐ Croats do not like the pockets of Serbs living in Croatia. They want to disarm the secessionist Serbs in the Krajina region in the east and north of the republic, where the spring offensive is most likely to begin.

☐ The Muslims in the Bosnian Government want to win back much of the territory they lost in the first months of the Bosnian war. Many continue to hope the West will help them to regain lost ground, although the leadership is believed to be putting more faith in rearming for the expected spring offensive. They are believed to have garnered a wide array of arms from sympathisers throughout the world since America unilaterally ceased to patrol the Adriatic and police the arms embargo last autumn. Many diplomats believe the Muslim-led Bosnian Government agreed to the latest peace plan last year only because it knew the Serbs would reject it and they would never have to implement it.



Greeks stop EU deal with Turkey

FROM GEORGE BROCK IN BRUSSELS

TO THE fury of European Union officials, the Greek Government yesterday set out to block a landmark agreement between the Union and Turkey, which it had agreed hours before.

George Mangakis, the Greek European Affairs Minister, wrote to Alain Juppé, the current president of the EU Foreign Ministers, yesterday to say that he considers a deal setting up an EU-Turkey customs union to be "suspended".

The Greeks took exception to a speech by Murat Karayalcin, the Turkish Foreign Minister, who said Greece had no business sponsoring Cyprus's application for EU membership while the island was divided. If EU talks were opened, he said, Turkey "will be left with no option but to take steps towards achieving a similar integration with the Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus". Athens said this was a threat to annex part of the island.

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Seoul offers peace troops for seat on Security Council

David Watts last saw Kim Young Sam through a cloud of tear gas in 1987. Since then the former dissident, who visits Britain today, has led South Korea to dominance among Asian democracies

SOUTH KOREA is ready to deploy its troops in support of United Nations peacekeeping operations if it wins a seat as a temporary member of the United Nations Security Council.

President Kim Young Sam pledged his country's full participation in UN activities and the backing of its 660,000 troops on the eve of his arrival here, a visit that the Koreans see as vital in launching their country into the first rank of nations.

High on the agenda is winning British support for the coveted Security Council seat, which should go to Sri Lanka as the next Asian representative. Interviewed in the Korean presidential palace, the Blue House, a target for North Korean commandos, the President was clearly revelling in the fruits of a life of extraordinary political struggle that has included long periods of house arrest, hunger strike and even a clandestine mountain climbing association as cover for democratic political activity under martial law.

As leader of a democratic state, President Kim believes not only that South Korea is ready to look the mother of parliaments in the eye, but can also claim Seoul's right to a Security Council seat. In any event Korea, he feels, owes a debt of gratitude to the world body for rescuing it from Communist domination during the Korean War.

"I think the British Government can exercise significant influence in the resolution of this matter because of its existing links with Commonwealth countries and because of the British Government's status in the international community," he said. Noting that Sri Lanka had been on the Security Council before, President Kim said the timing would be "significant in several aspects".

"First of all, we are fully prepared to contribute to international peace and security through an active role in the UN, including peacekeeping operations. Second, the inter-Korean relationship is now very delicate and if we become a member of the United Nations Security Council we can more effectively contribute to the peaceful resolution of North Korea's nuclear issue. But most of all we are fully prepared to contribute to the resolution of the problems that the global village is faced with in terms of poverty, disease and other welfare issues."

Korea will join the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development next year, lifting it out of its intermediary status between the developing and developed world, and is pressing hard for its candidate, Kim Chul Soo, to become the first Secretary-General of the new World Trade Organisation. This reflects the ambitions of a country which boasts an increasingly powerful economy and whose conglomerates are now thrusting out across the world much as Japan's did a decade ago.

By the end of the decade Pohnag, Korea's top steel maker, plans to eclipse Nippon Steel as the world biggest manufacturer, and the country's three leading car makers plan to double their production to six million units. Britain is already the largest recipient of Korean investment in the European Union and the President intends that his visit should also boost EU two-way trade, which runs at $23.5 billion (£15 billion) a year.

Korea is home to some of the world's most successful shipbuilders and computer chip makers, and President Kim believes that his country has overtaken Japan in its democratisation and in cleaning up the sometimes murky connections between business and government.

☐ **Seoul:** North Korea warned yesterday that a nuclear deal with America would collapse unless Washington drops plans to give it South Korean-made reactors. The warning came two days before an American-led international consortium was to be inaugurated to underwrite the accord. *(AP)*

Focus on South Korea, Special Supplement



Kim: drastic military reform democratised society

Dissident develops taste for autocracy

THE first thing President Kim Young Sam did on taking office was to remove all the commanders of the armed forces (David Watts writes).

With the historical record against him, the country held its breath for the apparently inevitable backlash from an army that is among the toughest in the world.

"I wasn't afraid of a coup," President Kim now says. "I was very sure that drastic reform of the military would democratise the Korean military and therefore Korean society."

It was that sort of determination that has kept him in politics, despite years of harassment and repression by the Korean Central Intelligence Agency. It is the sort of determination, too, that sees him rise at 5am every day to jog four miles round a track outside the presidential palace, despite his 68 years.

In an extraordinary political gesture, he joined forces with his erstwhile political enemies to form a new political party, the Democratic Liberal Party, from which he has recently purged his oldest ally. Many believe he will soon move to revise the constitution to permit a second term in office.

He has cleared the Government and bureaucracy of officials deemed corrupt or inefficient. All business and property deals must be in the real names of the participants while Seoul drivers may use their cars only on certain days to ease congestion.

But equally, ministers can now lose their jobs at the whim of their leader. President Kim looks increasingly autocratic in the classic Korean mould. There are even whispers that he will soon have trouble filling ministerial seats unless politicians can expect more job security. Of more concern is his tendency to dismiss North Korea as a leaderless and irrelevant state, following what is regarded as a cardinal error in not sending a representative to Kim Il Sung's funeral.



Miss Universe, Sushmite Sen of India, achieving her ambition to meet Mother Teresa in Calcutta yesterday. Miss Sen has provoked controversy among conservative Indians by expressing opinions on such issues as abortion

Lahore murder signals spread of sectarian war

BY CHRISTOPHER THOMAS, SOUTH ASIA CORRESPONDENT

GUNMEN killed the leader of a militant Shia Muslim organisation in Lahore yesterday, escalating a war of terror against Pakistan's religious minorities. Religious killings have averaged 150 a month this year, most of them in Karachi, the financial capital.

The carnage continued even through the holy month of Ramadan, which ended last Thursday. The Government has rejected advice by army and senior government officials to ban extremist religious groups, leaving police with the impossible job of keeping rival factions apart.

Muhammad Ali Naqvi, the head of Tehrik-i-Jafria Pakistan, a pro-Iranian group, was shot in broad daylight in his car. Members of the organisation protested in Lahore's main road after the killing, firing guns into the air, burning tyres and throwing stones. The group has been locked in a tit-for-tat vendetta with a rival Sunni Muslim organisations for months.

The Government has ordered the arrest of several extremists on both sides and hundreds of others have gone underground to avoid detention. Sunni-Shia violence was previously a preserve of Punjab province, of which Lahore is the capital, but it has now brought Karachi to the point of collapse. More than 900 died in religious and ethnic violence in the city last year.

Karachi is also a victim of fighting between Sindhis and non-Sindhis, turning it into an urban battlefield. Snipers have shot dead many policemen from the rooftops, forcing the police to retreat from the streets and take refuge behind sandbag bunkers.

Shias form 20 per cent of the population. Sunni extremism was fanned by President General Muhammad Zia, the former dictator, in the mid-1980s when he funded them to build a power base among the Islamic right wing. The new generation of militants, awash in guns and drugs money, are contemptuous of electoral politics. Many are gangsters posing as religious crusaders.

Mr Naqvi mobilised Shias all over Pakistan to fight the Sunni onslaught. His group has been accused of attacking Sunni mosques in reprisal for shootings at Shia places of worship. A month ago, as Shias were worshipping at a Karachi mosque, gunmen sprayed them with bullets, killing eight and wounding 17.

Fundamentalist groups accuse the Government of fomenting religious strife to weaken the Islamic movement. The Government has banned foreign funding of religious parties and their schools, a measure that will doubtless be ignored.

The Government's failure to end the anarchy has angered the Federation of Pakistan Chambers of Commerce and Industry. It wants members to stop advertising on state radio and television in protest.

Japanese issue Bali travel alert

Tokyo: Mystery is deepening in Japan over a cholera epidemic among Japanese tourists returning from Bali, but which has so far not affected other foreign visitors to the Indonesian resort island (Gwen Robinson writes).

Indonesians insist that "nobody has ever contracted cholera in Bali", but Japan has issued travel warnings and a report based on more than 300 documented cases of Japanese tourists who contracted cholera or its symptoms.

No deaths have been reported, but the scare is affecting the lucrative Japanese tourist industry to Indonesia. The report said that the number of cholera cases in Japan had reached its highest level since the end of the Second World War, when more than 1,240 soldiers returned from Asian jungles with the disease. The present victims have returned from Bali since February 6.

An Indonesian spokesman said officials had been sent to the island to investigate.

Esteemed linguists tackle bastion of Indian verbosity

FROM CHRISTOPHER THOMAS IN DELHI

IT IS not unusual in India to receive an official letter signed by a humble and respectful government servant who asks for an early and fulsome response to his enquiries, in order that he may be in a position to do the needful.

Invitations to weddings and other special events are liable to "solicit your valuable presence to grace the occasion", or "to beg the favour of your esteemed presence". Nowhere in the English-speaking world are there more honoured and esteemed personages than in India, which has developed Victorian formality into an over-the-top art form.

The newly-formed Plain Language Commission of Tamil Nadu, in southern India, hates it. "Even business correspondence is covered in a smokescreen of complicated English," says V. Ramamurthy, a consultant who is preparing to launch a three-week "simple English" evening course in Madras for business executives.

The executives will pay more than £50 to be told not to abase themselves in letter-writing — or, as Michael Cutts of Britain's Plain Language Commission put it, to "stop grovelling". He was in India a few months ago conducting courses at the invitation of the Federation of Consumer Organisations, based in Tamil Nadu. One of the aims of the federation is to tidy the turgid prose of English-language legal documents, which can ramble for 200 words between fullstops. It also tackles misleading advertisements. The formation of the Plain Language Commission grew from this campaign.

Mr Ramamurthy said: "We do not want to change the Indian-ness of English; we simply want to eliminate the Victorian hangover of verbosity." He complained that Indian newspapers were bastions of "Inglish" verbosity, citing an example: "He was conveyed to his place of residence in a state of alcoholic intoxication", for which read, "He was taken home drunk."

The Delhi-based International Journalists' Forum has just sent invitations to a conference next month written in "Inglish", as the smokescreen style is now known. It reads: "You are requested to inform about your presence in this conference by a return mail so that we are on the comfortable side to make necessary arrangements for you." Invitees are, of course, solicited to provide their valuable presence to grace the occasion.

☐ **Poll violence:** At least 11 people died in election-related violence in India's southern Andhra Pradesh and eastern Bihar states. *(Reuter)*

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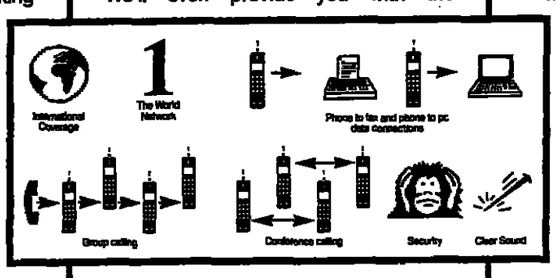
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T1

A course in working for charity bridges the gap between traditional volunteers and high-flyers with soul. **Libby Purves** reports

Farewell to high pay and expenses

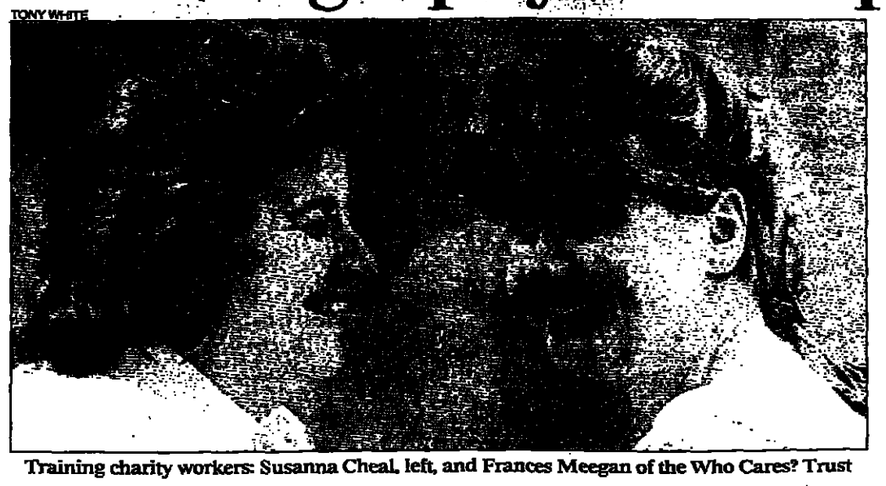
Five years ago this winter, on a hunch, a charity consultant started running courses entitled Working For A Charity. Susanna Cheal herself had been a corporate executive, a full-time mother, a volunteer and a paid charity consultant, and felt that there were bridges to be built between these worlds.

Charities, growing more professional every day, were dipping into the pool of commercial executives and even (to the dismay of traditionalists) using headhunters: meanwhile a lot of their volunteers were able women, thinking of returning to work but often without the confidence to see themselves as paid workers. She began a course of seminars, combined with work experience in charity offices: her prediction to me on these pages (this being gung-ho 1989 when Mr Lawson was still unassailable) was that women would be hot commodities in the Nineties owing to "a skill shortage, with everyone chasing women returning to work".

That, of course, did not happen. The recession, however, did. And with it came an atmosphere of weary disillusionment among many commercial executives, and a set of midlife crises rather like the one dreamt up by the TV scriptwriters for Zoë Wanamaker in *Love Hurts*, in which such executives walk out on the perks and do something "real". With charities squeezed and anxious to manage every penny as hawkishly as any multinational, they were welcomed. Since the predicted "women returners" and ex-volunteers also came. Ms Cheal's courses doubled in size and more than 350 people have been trained, half of whom now work in charities. At the courses you now find high-flyers from BP and BT sitting side by side with hesitant volunteer housewives hoping for some modest responsibility. Next week, Working For A Charity celebrates its fifth birthday.

All of which provides a wonderful opportunity to consider whether these worlds are now so very different. Do hawks from ICI feel caged and restless in the gentler, touchy-feely world of charity? Do they annoy people with their commanding ideas? Can you, in these days of computer-targeted mailshots and multi-million pound fundraising, really sense the different-ness of charities, founded on the simple idea of *giving without return*?

TONY WHITE



Training charity workers: Susanna Cheal, left, and Frances Meegan of the Who Cares? Trust

Ask Gillian Smithson, now at *Save the Children* but formerly a high-flyer at WH Smith and Our Price records (more like Lure-the-Children). "I wanted," she says typically, "a kinder environment." She found it, and still maintains that the voluntary sector is "more caring" about the people who work in it. "Everyone is strongly motivated by the work, and that bubbles through, even though SCF is such a giant that it does have similar structural lines to a business."

She also finds that even junior staff are far more willing to speak out and disagree with policy than they would in a commercial concern. "So everything gets discussed a great deal more," says Ms Smithson. Which would, of course, drive many corporate executives mad? "Er . . . yes. OK. I admit it. I had to tone down my style enormously. Caring and sharing is great, but things can take a hell of a long time." Still, for women in particular there is the advantage that a children's charity can hardly be obstructive to mothers. "Come half-term, the corridors at SCF are *full of racing children*. Doesn't make us any less efficient, though," she adds, crisply.

This rather feminine side of charities can also come as a surprise to some of the men. Ms Cheal's courses have trained as many men as women, rather to her surprise; one or two of them were so senior in their original jobs that charities sprang on them during their work-experience and never let them go. Patrick Hodson of ICI was sent for four weeks training to the National Eczema Society — "I couldn't even spell it" — and is still there, now as a paid executive.

He finds all sorts of differences. "There are all these women, in very high positions in the charity world whereas — may as well admit it — at places like ICI and BP the men do run the show. So you have to get used to women's style, which is different. I like it a lot. The other big difference is the relationship between the board, the trustees, and the executive. A charity board is voluntary, and sometimes lags behind an energetic director and executives. It doesn't have the pushing attitudes of paid company directors. You need to get used to that. And then there's the question of investment — you have to invest in order to grow, but everything you spend on the organisation itself gets seen as depriving your clients, the patients, of direct support."

This attitude was reported by others, too. Not many public benefactors go as far as Mother Teresa, who banned her co-workers' organisation from raising or having any money at all because they must trust in God, but one charity executive sighed: "You have no idea how hard it is to persuade them to buy new PCs, even when it's vital, because they're totally focused on spending the money on rice and medicine. But you can't deliver the rice or the medicine without proper organisation, can you? We bite our tongues a lot."

The courses stress that nothing in your new job will be lush. Farewell to high salaries, expense accounts and prestige offices. But Frances Meegan, formerly of BT and now working for the Who Cares? Trust, muses on a less obvious loss. "Even though it is a world where people are nicer to one another, you may find that there isn't the same interest in developing employees and their careers. The people in the organisation often get sidelined."

Around even the most modern professional charity there still hang the ghosts of those dedicated figures who stuffed envelopes for 40 years and never asked for a thank you, let alone a rise. "You can," said one young worker who preferred not to be named, "be made to feel selfish if you ask for anything at all, even though it's your whole life and livelihood. But you can see how it happens."

And, unless perhaps you join the top few of Britain's 170,000 registered charities, don't expect much prestige. Patrick Hodson is relaxed about his personal status, but warns others: "Say you're at Barclay's Bank or ICI headquarters — everyone nods and gives you your due. Say you're with the National Eczema Society and people give you quizzical looks and think of village bazaars and jumble sales." Unless, of course, they have eczema in the family. "And then, they're all over you."

Which is, in the end, the compensation. People, not just shareholders, need you.

● *Working For A Charity is at 44-46 Caversham Road, London NW5 2DS. Non-profit making organisations please send an A4 SAE for information and application forms.*

'Anyone can be lured by a cult'

Joanna Pitman on a don intrepid enough to explore new religions

ALAN WELLER



Eileen Barker: "It's not true that they all brainwash members and have sexual orgies"

For someone who has spent the past 25 years living on and off with the Moonies, chanting with the Hare Krishnas, absorbing the teachings of the Church of Satan, New Ageism, Neo-Paganism and a string of other religions, one almost expects to find cranial horns and a forked tail attached to Eileen Barker.

While she has many adversaries who do indeed regard her as the Devil incarnate, she is actually a mild-mannered professor of sociology at the London School of Economics. Were she in the black chair facing Magnus Magnusson, she would state her specialist subject as "the sociology of religion with particular reference to new religious movements and cults".

It is an issue of growing interest and relevance in these dark, pre-millennial days. The very idea of religious cults scares most parents out of their skins, yet most of us assume that only under-privileged and unstable homes provide hunting grounds for new recruits.

It is a shock, therefore, to hear Professor Barker's Identikit of a typical candidate for cultish seduction. "These cults appeal to the young, mainly those of above-average education and intelligence, generally from good, middle-class or upper-middle class homes, psychologically fairly well adjusted. Some are from over-protective homes and need to make a statement. They have been brought up as a big fish in a small pond and when they cannot succeed in the real world, they seek solace in an alternative family of undemanding religious believers."

Some will derive self-esteem and a taste of the exotic from membership of a group in search of the Kingdom of Heaven on earth. For others, visions of apathy and hypocrisy in the orthodox church, or simply too many blue rinses packing the pews, provide the incentive to shop elsewhere for their spiritual succour.

"With increased social and geographical mobility, the range of cults has grown from those based on a Judeo-Christian tradition to all sorts of new movements," Professor Barker says. There is the universally recognisable lunatic fringe — the flying saucer worshippers, self-styled "atheistic religions" and cults that receive energy beamed from outer space. There are movements tied up with ecology and feminism. In fact any trend that can be harnessed into a movement has been.

And now there is even a "prosperity theology" designed to help members become good capitalists, but only, of course, after they have made generous contributions to the celestial bodies and temporal bank accounts of its leaders.

Professor Barker lists 1,600 new religious movements operating in Britain on the books of Inform, an organisation she founded in 1988, backed by the Home Office and the Church of England, aimed at providing objective information on religious cults to worried parents, counsellors, the clergy or potential members. "A lot of new religions offer enormous benefits, a sense of belonging, direction in life, a feeling of making a worthwhile contribution. Plenty of them are positive and constructive. It's not true that they all brainwash members and have sexual orgies."

Professor Barker believes that media sensationalism, anti-cultists (often as fanatical as cultists themselves) and ill-informed counsellors have contributed to damaging misinformation about cults and a widespread view of them as hotbeds of corruption and depravity. But there are some cults that do pretty nasty things. "The most dangerous are those that cut off their members from the outside world, either physically or psychologically. Some cults don't allow any questions — doubting the hotline to God is seen as betrayal."

Sensible and informed awareness has become paramount in dealing with today's plethora of cults and any parent of a child "lost" to one would feel in good hands with Professor Barker. Calm and shrewd, she has the steady wisdom of an academic and a flair for detecting deceit, wool-pulling and chicanery. When not familiarising herself with the chanting habits of the Soka Gakkai or studying occult interest in rains of blood, she writes books and papers on subjects such as brainwashing and deprogramming.

She has an intrepid streak in her, too. She recently risked her neck in a bombing attack in Azerbaijan, where she went to study the exploitation of religion in the war. Last week, a fax summoned her to address the Parliament in Moscow from authorities fearful of an invasion of benevolent cults, and the week before she was in Sofia to give a talk on the expected impact of new religions in Eastern Europe.

Professor Barker has had some bruising encounters with cults that are convinced she is betraying them. "My aim is to allay fears and alert people to potential difficulties. But I have to meet them and get to know them. I end up being loved by neither outsiders nor insiders."

She has never had any difficulty resisting the appeal of cults herself. "I have never considered joining any of them. They're not nearly as exotic as they seem. And so far, I have never lost any of my students either." (She makes it clear that papers will be marked down if students show signs of wanting to join.)

For those of us who sneer at these disagreeable doctrines from a distance, there may be a rude awakening on the horizon. Professor Barker points out that a number of leading British corporations have started sending their middle managers on self-development courses loosely based on religious cults.

"The idea is to rid yourself of blockages and hang-ups, get at your inner self and become empowered to work better together as a team." Participants are required to discuss their childhood. "It's amazing what comes out. You get the pinstripes bursting into tears all over the place. Nobody is ever quite the same again." Consider yourself warned.

Optimism rules in our wilderness

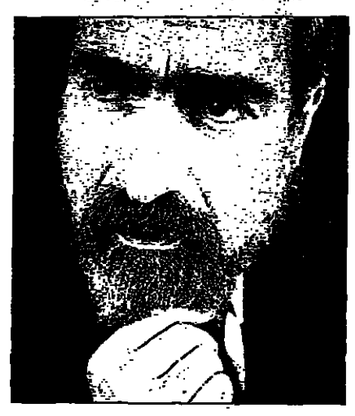
In the second extract from his book, **Dr Jonathan Sacks**, the Chief Rabbi, argues that we rely on a moral tradition

The hope of the Enlightenment was of open-ended progress. Its central metaphor was science. Through freedom, experimentation, reason and inquiry, we could achieve mastery not only over the natural world but also over humanity and our multiple strivings. However, as the 20th century nears its close, we have discovered that science has brought as many problems as solutions. Used industrially it has eroded our environment. Used militarily it has given us an unprecedented capacity for destruction. Used politically it has created totalitarianisms. Allied to ancient hatreds it produced the Holocaust, the most controlled and systematic attempt at genocide ever undertaken. We have come to realise the presence of limits: to the indefinite expansion of economies, to the power of reason to control human passion and prejudice, and to the ability of governments and markets to solve social problems.

More importantly we have begun to recognise the importance of human relationships and the environment in which they take place. Enlightenment thought paid scant attention to the framework of personal relationships: to families and communities and to the rules, rituals and traditions that sustained them. These things were, after all, unscientific. Our communities and traditions are inescapably local and idiosyncratic. They are where we become people in particular, not humanity in the abstract. As a result they simply fail to register on the Enlightenment map, with its obsessive focus on what was universal and therefore rational. Whatever failed this test was dismissed as myth and prejudice, the subjective imposition of individual will. Thus began the disintegration of those institutions within which human beings have, since the birth of history, found meaning and identity through their relationships with others and membership in a community. Humanity in the abstract has proved to be too abstract to be human.

Thinkers such as Alasdair MacIntyre, author of *After Virtue*, and Robert Bellah, author of *Habits of the Heart: Middle America Observed*, have been signalling for some time that the process cannot continue without severe damage to society. What should be our response?

First should be a *principled rejection of despair*. Just as the optimism of the Enlightenment proved to be exaggerated, so too will the pessimism of those who speak today of the "new dark ages". At the heart of biblical faith is a series of images — Noah after the flood, Job after his trials, Isaiah contemplating the destruction of Jerusalem — which testify to the unbroken human capacity to rebuild life after disaster. Our moral and religious beliefs have been damaged by two centuries of assault, but they are not beyond repair. They are never beyond repair. What made the prophets of the Bible eternal spokesmen of the human condition is that beyond every warning of catastrophe they discerned a distant horizon of hope. Jeremiah, in the midst of prophesying the defeat of Jerusalem, bought a field there as a gesture of his conviction that Jews would one day return: and they did return. In those who undertake to guide us through the wilderness, pessimism is an abdication of responsibility and we must reject it.



'Our communities are where we become people in particular, not humanity in the abstract'

Dr Jonathan Sacks

No less importantly, we must reject the absurd test the Enlightenment imposed on religious and moral beliefs, namely that only if they were *universal* could they be *true*. As anthropologists began to uncover the full diversity of human behaviour, philosophers drew the conclusion that since many of our deepest convictions about humanity were not universal, they must be false. This is a fallacy and deserves to be challenged.

Moralities are like languages. We are born into them and we must learn them if we are to communicate and have relationships with others. Like languages, moralities embody ancient and living social processes. We do not invent them by our individual choices. Instead, by learning them we take our part in a particular tradition which long preceded us and which will continue long after we are no longer here. Like language, morality testifies to the paradox that only by yielding to something which is *not* individual can we become individuals. There is nothing unique about a baby's cry. There is something unique about Shakespeare's sonnets. It takes a long apprenticeship in the rules of grammar and semantics before we express what we alone wish to say. Only by a similar apprenticeship in the rules and virtues of a moral tradition can we shape the life that we alone are called on to live.

Like languages, moralities are not universal. But neither are they the product of private and personal choice. We can no more sustain relationships without shared rules of fidelity and trust than we can sustain communication without shared rules of grammar. And without a stable framework of relationships we are left confused, vulnerable and alone.

Ultimately, of course, moralities are more than languages. They make claims upon us. The key word in biblical ethics is *brit*, or "covenant". In a covenant, parties come together to pledge themselves to a code of mutual loyalty and protection. Like a contract, a covenant is born in the recognition that no individual can achieve his or her ends in isolation. Because we are different, we each have strengths that others need, and weaknesses that others can remedy.

Unlike a contract, however, a covenant involves a commitment to go beyond the letter of the law, and to sustain the relationship even at times when it seems to go against the interests of one of the parties. As Daniel Elazar puts it: "In its heart of hearts, a covenant is an agreement in which a higher moral force, traditionally God, is either a direct party to or a guarantor of a particular relationship."

The more we become aware of the dangers of limitless freedom, the more we will search for moral rather than mere technical guidance. Moral codes, for so long seen as repressive barriers to individual fulfilment, will come to be recognised for what they always were: the language of relationship and the precondition of trust. When that happens we will begin to renew the covenant which turns competing strangers into the shared enterprise that we call society.

● Faith in the Future *by Jonathan Sacks is published by Darton, Longman & Todd. £11.95*



هكذا من الاصل



ISTANTE BY VERSACE: glamour for day or night



CALLAGHAN: long-line layers



GUCCI: Slim, sexy, relaxed, chic — and incandescent colour



DOLCE & GABBANA: made-to-measure



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Heady cocktails fizzing night and day

MILAN

The catwalks are knee-deep in little black dresses and big colourful statements



Fashion

IAIN R. WEBB

ON MY way to the airport to catch the plane to Milan for the unveiling of the autumn-winter 1995-96 collections, the cab driver proffered these words of wisdom: "A woman can't really go wrong with a little black dress."

It's true, and that goes for designers too. In Milan almost every collection had an LBD, further emphasising the return to *soigné* dressing, a rerun of Audrey Hepburn as Holly Golightly in *Breakfast At Tiffany's* — only now the cocktail hour lasts all day. Satin, velvet, and chiffon are no longer reserved for after dark, the fine line between daywear and evening apparel being all but obliterated.

Which brings us to the flip side of understated elegance which shared the spotlight. At its focus are colour and fabrication — an eclectic, vaguely eccentric mix-and-unmatched way of dressing which appears the antithesis of the LBD — best exemplified by Scott Crolla for Callaghan. Crolla is known for his fascination with fabrics, and his first collection for the Italian label reflected this, juxtaposing several colours, patterns, and textures on the same outfit. Crolla focused on the slim silhouette which was universal as the shape of things to come.

And so it was throughout the Milan show — an exciting blend of the wildly outrageous and unparalleled sophistication. The designers are still plundering the past, primarily the late 1950s to late 1960s (think Anne Bancroft as Mrs Robinson).

There was also a preoccupation with the past glories of Hollywood (the ultimate glamour factory), and an attempt to seduce with sheer luxury. As far as fashion is concerned, the future certainly feels good.

Below, Italian designers outline their collections.



ISTANTE BY VERSACE: casualness and glitz, offering a 1950s Hollywood atmosphere. Photographs by CHRIS MOORE

MAXMARA: Luxurious tailoring with couture details. The new look has a retro-inspired elegance. The silhouette features a more defined waist.

KRIZIA: Long live cinema! The collection is a homage to the legends of the screen. Tailored suits such as Myrna Loy would have worn, Marlene Dietrich's tuxedos — weapons of eternal femininity. Seduction is the message.

VALENTINO: The Oliver collection is all about luxury and ease. Exquisitely refined yet extremely casual. Cigarette slim skirts have narrow waists emphasised by wide belts. Camel, brown and grey mixed with stronger shades offer a relaxed glamour. Fabrics are sumptuous.

JIL SANDER: Glamour gets eccentric. A bold, vibrant statement which is at the same time sensual and subtle. A mix of avant-garde materials such as nylon, Lurex and sculptured organzas, with luxurious wools and gabardines.

GIANNI VERSACE: Tailoring accentuates the cut, proportion and construction. "Glamour for day": casual outfits transformed by precious fabrics offer a 1950s Hollywood atmosphere. Lots of chiffon, georgette, satin with cashmere in bright and soft colours.

SALVATORE FERRAGAMO: The spirit of couture. The long-awaited return of the body-conscious silhouette. Straight skirts to the knee and dresses emphasise natural curves. Evening hemlines skim the ankle and necklines are cut to reveal shoulders.

GENNY: The return of the tailor-made look and drapery. The bodice is defined by the waist and shoulders. The suit, precision-cut jacket and skirt barely touching the knee, is always streamlined.

PRADA: The theme is mixed but contemporary, featuring heavy fabrics. Hemlines are around the knee. A glamorous but sporty look.

GIORGIO ARMANI: Elegance, sophistication and impeccable tailoring. Bias-cut fabrics, one-tone colours, long skirts and wide trousers. Luxurious fabrics include wool, silk velvet, damask and satin for day; and lots of black velvet and jacquard silk or stretch tulle for evening.

GIANFRANCO FERRE: For day, clothes are designed to be efficient, sharp and smooth, while evening wear is seductive. The suit made from superstretch fabrics is smaller in proportion. Knits fit like a glove. There are flashes of bare flesh, and transparency.

GUCCI: Sexy. Relaxed but still chic, with no distinction between day and evening. There is one look, anti-retro. A slimmer silhouette, moulded to the body. Coats often match the pants — the trouser suit looks right. Colours are incandescent.

DOLCE & GABBANA: A celebration of made-to-measure fashion. Dresses are simple, and hug the body with clever seaming. Jackets are hourglass shaped, sometimes with a low-cut neckline, sometimes corseted. Lots of fur.

MILAN HOTLINE

● IT'S TIME to search out those old Dulux paint charts — the predominant colours for winter 1995 were favourites of interior decorators circa 1973: orange, purple, chocolate brown and pale blue.

● THESE shoes weren't made for walking. As heels continue to get even higher, insurance on models must be reaching a premium, lest they take a tumble. At Missoni Yasmeen Ghauri almost came a cropper in a pair of white spike-heeled booties. Meanwhile, Katharine Hamnett must be kicking herself for not checking her models' shoe sizes. Some girls had to suffer shoes stuffed with tissue paper, while others abandoned them and walked barefoot. An unfortunate way to launch a new shoe line.

● SURPRISE, surprise. The long wait for the Gucci show to begin was brightened by a rousing chorus of *Happy Birthday* for *Women's Wear Daily* head honcho, John Fairchild. The usually super-cool Mr Fairchild looked suitably embarrassed.

● THE on-off love affair between supermodel Claudia Schiffer and illusionist David Copperfield is on again — the pair were seen canoodling in the tea-room of the Grand Hotel only yesterday.



DOESN'T EVERYONE HAVE THE RIGHT TO FEEL GOOD ABOUT THEMSELVES?

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Alan Coren



■ The day is at hand, the hand is at the numeric pad, but where is that number?

By the pricking of my thumbs, something wicked this way comes. More precisely, by the pricking of my fingers. My fingers know they are about to be asked to cope with a whole lot of new stuff, and they know they are about to be found wanting. They know this because they have been watching television, clutching the armchair to still their trembling, and they know that what is coming is PhONEday. That is how it is advertised, because BT want to engrave on our memory the fact that the figure 1 is to be added to all our phone numbers, and, fearless of irony, they know that the way to engrave it is not with a number but with a word. We can remember words: you all have my introductory quote by heart, but if the Second Witch had chosen instead to rattle off her Access number, who now could summon it effortlessly to mind? The only way BT could have fixed 1 as a number would have been to flash up Phlneday and back its iffy graphic with a tape of Kiri Te Kanawa trilling *One Phine Day*, laying coloratura emphasis on the one, and if you think I am rambling you are dead right, that is what blue funk does.

Once upon a time, life was a doddle for fingers. If they wished to dial someone, they referred to a brain stocked with words — ENTerprise, JUNiper, GLAdstone — to which a mere four digits were attached. The brain could store hundreds of these. It had no need of a personal organiser, to be carried at all times, on which a minimum of ten digits had to be stored for each phonee, the phonees themselves codified numerologically, so that if the fingers needed to look up their number, the brain had first to remember the number under which the fingers had stored it.

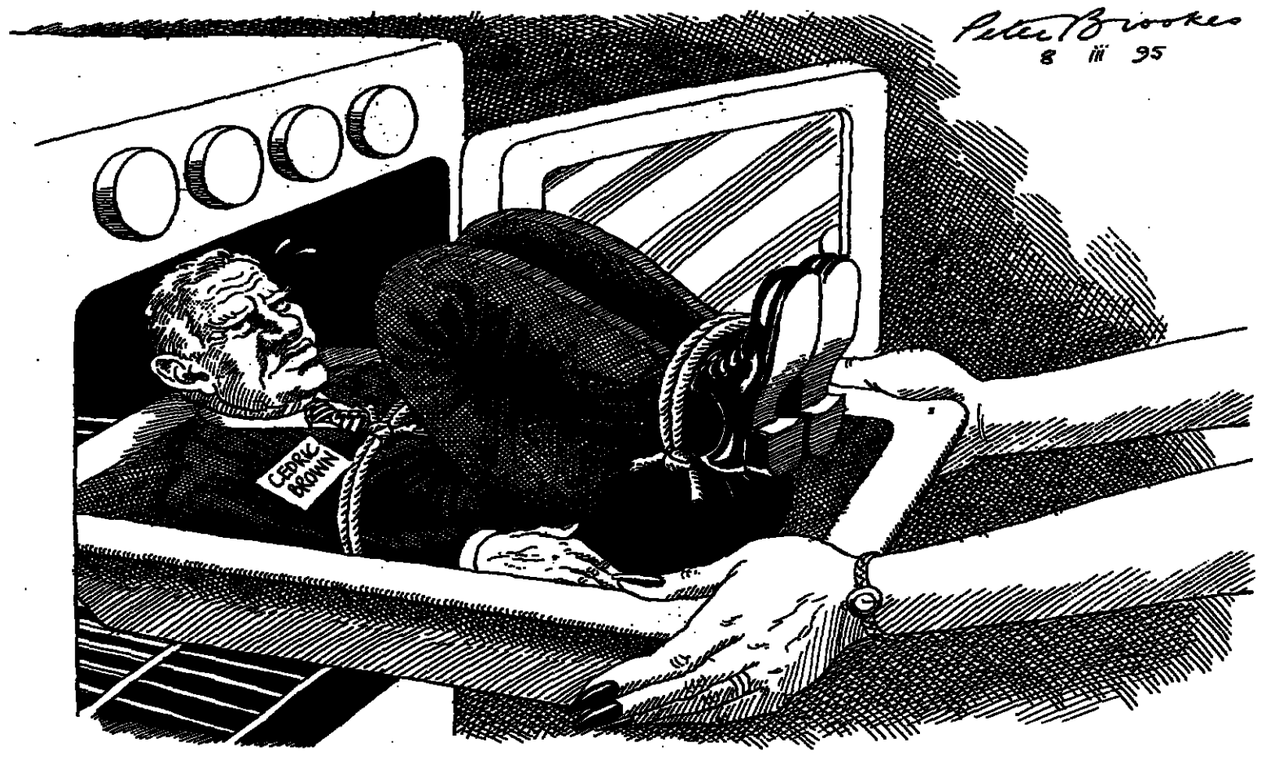
Had, mind, the brain wanted to buy a personal organiser, or anything else, it would have obtained the requisite cash by going to a bank where its fingers would write a cheque. It would not have stood in the sleet outside the bank, as today's brain does, struggling to distinguish between its cashpoint number, its PIN number, its car radio locking code, its personal number for the keypad on its office door, and the number of the combination lock of the briefcase in which it planned to put the money for the kind of really safe keeping you get when you cannot subsequently remember the number of the combination lock; only to realise, when its fingers had tapped the cashpoint numbers out and the machine had eaten the card, that the number they had tapped was in fact its video club membership number, though for which of its three video clubs the brain could not, as it were, put its finger on.

That the brain did not write any of these numbers down goes without saying, since the whole point of codes, see OED, is that they are a system of signals designed to ensure secrecy, though not necessarily from the brain inside the head currently banging itself on the wall of the bank, knowing that the only way to get at its own money is to write to the bank so that the bank can, after a week or so, issue a card with a nice new number for the brain to forget.

Some brains, though, do write these myriad numbers down, but they do it very cannily, by jumbling the numbers, e.g. middle digits reversed, outer digits increased by one, so that all the brain has to do, when asked to give its account number at, say, John Lewis (if its John Lewis card is inextricably locked inside its briefcase) is look at the account number on its personal organiser (if it can remember the number under which it was stored), remember exactly the system by which the digits were jumbled, and then wait for John Lewis to call the police.

This need not be a major problem, as the police will allow the brain to make one telephone call, to its solicitor. It becomes a major problem only if its solicitor's number is inside the briefcase which the brain has to explain to the desk sergeant that it is unable to open, in which event it is possible that the brain may find itself with a new number it has, for once, no difficulty in remembering, since it is stitched on its shirt.

No wonder, then, that the fingers prick at the imminence of PhONEday. More yet, the eyes weep to remember the words which follow that introductory quote: "Open, locks, whoever knocks." It was a terrific system.



To Grill : Place on top shelf in front of House of Commons Employment Select Committee, Gas Mk 7, until goose is well and truly cooked.
Serving suggestion: Stuffed, with lashings of gravy.

Power's new brokers

Simon Jenkins

The various utility services may have been privatised, but their nature means they cannot be denationalised — or depoliticised

Money stinks. The more you have of it, the more it stinks, and the more people notice. The chief executive of British Gas, Cedric Brown, is paid to think ahead. When he dipped his nose into the options trough, he must have known what he was doing. He was taking money which many of his customers, his shareholders and many former taxpayers would feel was rightfully theirs.

Yesterday, all who think that British Gas is just another private company should have been in Commons Committee Room 15. The gas executive, Cedric Brown, was playing his familiar role of public enemy number one over pay. He was discovering that his company, wherever else it may be, is not in the private sector. It is that peculiar creature of Thatcherism, a private company in the public sector. Like electricity, also in the news yesterday, it operates a franchise to produce and distribute gas for the public's use. The terms of the British Gas licence, the prices it may charge and thus its share price all depend on "Ofgas". This is an official, named Clare Spottiswoode, appointed by ministers and (vaguely) accountable to the House of Commons. The industry has its own minister, Tim Eggar. This is the public sector. All else is flam.

Yet what a timid, hesitant, pathetic public sector it is. On display in the Commons yesterday was not the majesty of Parliament but its impotence. In theory, Parliament created Mr Brown and his monopoly. In theory, Parliament set up Ofgas and "accounts" for it. In theory, Parliament should have ensured, if it wanted, that Ofgas steer British Gas clear of the options racket. In practice, all Parliament has done is stamp its little foot, in the form of a select committee chairman, Greville Janner, and howl. It can summon Mr Brown as often as it likes and berate him for his greed. Mr Brown need only smile sweetly and mutter Paul Getty's famous adage: "The meek shall inherit the earth, but not its mineral rights."

The chickens of 1980s energy privatisation are coming home to roost. British Gas was the most bizarre. In 1986, it was the subject of a battle between, on the one hand, the energy minister Peter Walker and the gas chairman Sir Denis Rooke, and, on the other, the Chancellor Nigel Lawson. The former wanted a privatised monopoly, the latter wanted the industry broken up and made more competitive. Mrs Thatcher rather sheepishly sided with Mr Walker, on the curious grounds, she admits in her memoirs, of "lack of parliamentary time".

The truth is that Sir Denis Rooke terrified her by threatening to resign and wreck Europe's biggest ever privatisation. He was one of the few men to face down Mrs Thatcher. British Gas was duly sold as a monopoly and sold cheap (it was four times oversubscribed). It was also graced with the lightest of regulatory regimes, to the rage of its customers. As soon as Mr Walker left office in 1990, he joined the British Gas board, a matter on which Lord Nolan must have something to say.

British Gas has exploited its monopoly. It has raised money domestically for ambitious international adventures. It has fought to protect its monopoly with its "drill-tip to burner-tip" advertising campaign, promoted each night on Classic-FM. The word "international" is obsessively reiterated. The Treasury has struggled to recover from the 1986 débâcle. In last week's Gas Bill, it unpicked the Walker deal and made sure that some competition in supply is available throughout the industry. Meanwhile the regulator, Ms Spottiswoode, is being leant on to insist on customer care and conservation measures, despite her vain attempt to concentrate on competition. Pressure groups lobby ministers. Ministers change the licence conditions. They summon meetings with the regulator, who summons meetings with boards.

This is not regulation, it is politics, and it is breaking out all over the former nationalised utilities. Yesterday the electricity regulator, Stephen Littlechild, responded forcefully to criticism that he had "gone native" and allowed profiteering by the regional power companies. He decided to cut electricity prices and thus dividends. In doing so, he savaged the value of the newly privatised generating companies.

Mr Littlechild made what amounts to a political decision. He shifted "value" from shareholders to consumers. He did so immediately after the Government had raised £4 billion pounds from selling the generating companies. Yesterday the value of these new shares plummeted and the City was understandably enraged. Mr Littlechild claimed that his decision on energy prices was pure coincidence, while the minister, Mr Eggar, denied knowing that any such decision was in the offing. What kind of fools do these people take the public for?

The regulators are ministers in all but name, just as Mr Eggar is a regulator in all but name. We are almost back to the "nudges and winks" of old-style nationalisation: discounts for old people, supplies to rural areas, energy saving, access to the network for private operators. The one matter the Government failed to put under the regulators' wing was some control on the determination of board incomes. Yet nothing has more damaged utility privatisation in the eyes of the public than this.

British Gas is about to be subjected to domestic competition. Its restructuring under its chairman, Richard Giordano, is radical. So was his recasting of executive pay, which he carried through last year and which led to the uproar over the apparent 75 per cent rise in Mr Brown's salary (it was mostly a consolidation of previous bonuses). What neither Mr Brown nor Mr Giordano can rectify is the bad taste left by the options racket, including Mr Brown's "lost" £250,000 in extra options, which precipitated yesterday's Commons hearing.

British Gas has decided to abandon this perk in future. I assume it recognises that options have no place in what remains, irrespective of ownership, a monopoly in the public sector. In this it is ahead of water and electricity. Share options are not true performance pay, since there is no penalty if the shares lose value. They are a case of heads I win, tails I can't lose. For privatised monopolies, the rise in share values usually reflects underpricing of the shares on flotation, or in the case of British Gas, post-privatisation cost cutting. In both cases, options reward executives for curing their previous inefficiency when in the public sector. When, as in the case of gas, they do this mostly by laying off 10,000 staff it is insensitive to give themselves huge rewards. The added value in these perks is properly a return for the public's past investment, not for a board member.

Money seems to bring out the worst in the rich. Top pay exemplifies J.K. Galbraith's reminder that "the salary of the chief executive of the large corporation is not a market award for achievement. It is frequently in the nature of a warm personal gesture by the individual to himself". In the private sector, executives can do what they like and hope they can get away with it. In the public sector this will not pass muster. Until last month, John Major believed that utilities options were money squeezed from the press of market forces by tough shareholders and fearless remuneration committees. There was no limit to his naïvety. Then he read his postbag and discovered that the public was less gullible.

What Mr Major can do about these utilities and their pay is another matter. I believe the "new" utilities public sector is a great advance on the old, but it is blighted by regulatory confusion. The regulator has to be accountable to some public institution: if a minister, then let us say so. The fact is you cannot denationalise a utility. You can sell its shares: you can introduce competition at the margin: you can abuse its directors and persecute them with regulation. But politicians are ultimately responsible for the structure and performance of these services, whether the supply companies are private or public. That is what regulation means and what the electorate expects.

The Labour Party has a device for handling all this. It is called Clause Four. Utilities are the one corner of the economy to which that clause still has relevance. Tony Blair doesn't want it; perhaps Mr Major might have a use for it.

America's equality race

Ben Macintyre on the souring of affirmative action

After three decades as the touchstone of American liberalism, affirmative action, the principle that disadvantaged minorities deserve preferential access to the workplace and higher education, is suddenly fighting for survival.

Affirmative action has long been a sacred but contradictory element in America's national self-image. Americans like to think of themselves as champions of the underdog, but equally the nation is founded on the belief that success should be the direct reward for talent and hard work, without regard to race, gender or class, which in turn explains why most Americans consider affirmative action iniquitous, unAmerican and moribund. More than 80 per cent of whites and a majority of non-whites oppose it.

Spurred by mounting public anger, a long overdue reassessment is now under way, and it promises to become the defining ideological battle of the current Administration. As so often, California's voters are leading the charge. The California Civil Rights Initiative, which would ban race and gender-biased preferences in state hiring and college admissions, is heading for the state ballot next year, and opposition to affirmative action is a central plank of the 1996 Republican platform.

The political stakes could not be higher. President Clinton last week pledged to review all federal affirmative action programmes and eradicate those that are unfair or ineffective, prompting fury on the left — Jesse Jackson threatened to run against Clinton rather than "stand by and watch the gains of 30 years be lost" — while the right scented an issue that could leave the president critically vulnerable.

This is essentially a moral rather than a political issue. The civil rights movement fought to achieve equality between all races, but instead a system has evolved which often rewards skin colour rather than merit. One form of discrimination was replaced with another. Instead of bringing America's races closer together, affirmative action has pushed them further apart, as indignation at preferential racial policies has reached a critical level among whites.

At the same time, the perception of reverse discrimination undermines those members of minorities who have won responsible positions in society fairly and on their own merit.

By definition, affirmative action was intended to be a temporary remedy, a way to offer historically outcast groups a route to the top that would soon become obsolete. It has proved to be anything but. The average income of black families has actually declined since 1969, while a growing 46 per cent of black children are currently born into poverty, and a black man is twice as likely to be unemployed as a white one. The principal beneficiaries of affirmative action have turned out to be white, middle-class women.

This suggests that the answer lies not in awarding opportunities to distinct racial groups irrespective of ability, in an effort to create an artificially diversified work force, but in tackling the problem at a more fundamental level: specifically, by improving education and rebuilding a sense of community and family in America's ravaged ghettos.

No one ever grew strong on a free lunch. Affirmative action has helped to instil a sense of inferiority in those it seeks to benefit, and deep resentment among those it does not. Without doubt, the growing revulsion contains a quotient of raw, old-fashioned racism; yet the proponents of affirmative action are equally prone to hide their intentions behind euphemistic language: "diversity goals", "admission preferences", "special considerations", "compensatory timetables", adding up that dread, forbidden word, "quotas".

These cut both ways, neither of them healthy: at the University of California, Berkeley, examiners have been accused of putting a "cap" on the number of qualified Asian-Americans who can enrol, while blacks and hispanics (known as "protected minorities") may gain entry even if their qualifications are below par. Academic standards are sacrificed in the interests of manufacturing a multi-cultural milieu.

The entire, largely informal edifice of affirmative action has been created not because it works, and still less because American voters want it, but because for decades it has made American social engineers feel better about the grim legacy of the country's racist past. That inheritance is alive and festering, but not invincible. In a trenchant *New York Times* article, the black writer Shelby Steele argued that affirmative action should be replaced by a wholesale legal assault on prejudice itself, making "discrimination by race, gender or ethnicity . . . a criminal offense, not just civil".

Racism is subtle, supple and usually covert, but only by attacking it at root can minorities take, with pride, the place in society merited by their individual talents — as women have started to do. Already the Clinton Administration is considering ways to adapt institutionalised gender and race preferences into a more equitable distribution of opportunity based on income or class.

The reopening of this debate is likely to be acrid and ugly. It may be hijacked by demagogues, further polarising America along racial lines, but it may also be the most significant step forward in American race relations for a generation.

Extra time

THE SHEEPSKIN coat brigade who pack the commentary boxes of the nation's football grounds for *Match of the Day* have been given extra time. British Airways has changed its Manchester-London timetable to enable them to get back to the capital after reporting matches in the North West.

The airline's chairman, Arsenal fan Sir Colin Marshall, intervened personally to put back by half an hour the departure time of the last shuttle from Manchester to London on Saturday evenings.

The BBC's Tony Gubba set the ball rolling by writing to Marshall explaining that the 6.30pm flight was too early for him and his crew and the many other journalists, supporters and even visiting teams. He complained that post-match interviews were suffering.

In his reply Marshall wrote: "We have had letters from other people attending football matches in the north of England who have also said the last flight is too early. The retiming is effective from Saturday, April 1, so I hope this will be useful for matches at the end of the season." The new timetable will continue next season.

Gubba is delighted. "The extra half hour is very important, it gives footballers a little longer to preen themselves before an interview. Some of them take so long drying their hair that we worry about missing the last flight home."

Flying high

IN A letter in yesterday's *Times*, Judith Jackson lauded the world's airlines for their hospitality. She told of an incident when she was bumped up to first class by an airline helping her escape a team of American footballers and fans packed in economy.

But she was only ever upgraded when she travelled alone, she explained. "I have never been upgraded when travelling with my husband."

All that could change now. Within hours of Jackson posting her letter to *The Times*, John Major promoted her husband, John Horam, to citizen's charter minister, to replace Robert Hughes. Jackson doesn't hold out much hope, however. "John has been travelling as an MP for years and it hasn't made any difference. Even if you are the Pope, I don't think it helps."



Only connect

THE Foreign Secretary, Douglas Hurd, was banging the European drum the other day in a speech to the Conservative Group for Europe. "The Single Market", he said, "gives us the chance to play to our strengths.

"I came across a good example of this last week. One of the most dynamic sectors for British business at the moment is the digital mobile phone," he went on. "Network operators . . . are doing well in over 30 countries." And all thanks to the European Commission and its member states, said Hurd.

The Foreign Secretary's information on mobile phones was well connected. It came from his 25-year-old son Alex, who works in the industry.

● *After collecting his knighthood from the Queen yesterday, Sir Robert Stephens repaired to the Savile Club in Mayfair with friends including Helena Kennedy, QC. So proud is he of his gong that he wore it throughout lunch.*

Disciplinarian

ALAN CLARK, chairman of the judges for the AT&T Non-Fiction Award, has been upsetting his fellow panellists. At the announcement of the shortlist of 12 authors for the £25,000 prize, in St James's on Monday night, the former defence minister explained that he was taking a firm line with the other judges, who include the critic Sheridan Morley.

"Some of them have been complaining that I'm too bossy, but you have to have discipline," he said. "You can't have people talking across each other. I have also realised that you have to have balance when choosing a list. I hate balance normally, but as chairman I appreciate that it is necessary."

One of the panel gave a delicate assessment of the meetings so far: "There have been a few spats. And there'll probably be more."

Fabba four

THE MOST extraordinary musical claim is made in a forthcoming book about a 1970s pop group. In *Abba: The Name of the Game*, the co-authors Andrew Oldham, Tony Calder and Colin Irwin make the breathtaking assertion that the group were the "greatest songwriters of the 20th century".

Oldham is a former manager of the Rolling Stones and, with Calder, he helped to mould such bands as Fleetwood Mac. But it is Abba's disco-fodder, like *Winner Takes It All*, *Waterloo* and *Knowing Me, Knowing You*, that causes the book to gush about "wonderful, heartbreakingly beautiful songs with moving lyrics and classic melody structure".

David Sinclair, *The Times*'s rock critic, is astonished. "Abba have a certain post-modern kitsch quality. It will be the Osmonds' turn next year."



Getting the Abba habit

P·H·S

SID AND CEDRIC

Privatisations were never meant to be so politically painful

By privatising the public utilities, the Government must have hoped that it could shift its responsibilities for them to the directors of the companies and their regulators. Instead, ministers find themselves worse off: they are blamed more for excess pay and profits, yet they have less power over the companies than they did before. The more "private" the utilities become, the more public and political becomes the outcry against them.

Yesterday Stephen Littlechild, the electricity regulator, announced that he was likely to demand bigger cuts in electricity prices. The move sent a high-voltage shock through the stock market, dragging down the prices not just of the regional electricity companies (Recs) themselves, but also those of PowerGen and National Power, the recently privatised electricity generators. The Government stands accused of not using the prospectus to alert potential shareholders to the danger that the regulator might act. Yet newspapers had written of the possibility, and ministers had no control over the announcement.

At the same time, in a Commons committee room, Cedric Brown, chief executive of British Gas, was back before the Employment Select Committee to justify his pay and perks. In response to public indignation, the Prime Minister has now backed down on the issue of executive pay, promising to consider implementing any legislative proposals that the Greenbury committee on top pay might recommend.

As our chart on page 29 shows, remuneration committees are packed with directors from other companies who have a vested interest in raising the going rate of executive pay. And the utilities have imported non-executive directors from private-sector companies who bid up the salaries to comparable levels. Yet a monopoly utility is not comparable to a company operating in a competitive market. Increasing the profits of a utility is easy, and a regulator, however tough, is no substitute for the disciplines of competition.

By promising legislation, however, John Major is playing a risky political game. Ceding ground to the Opposition is the sign of an administration in distress; and whatever the Government promises to do, the Labour Party is bound to promise more. As well as making the Prime Minister look weak, the U-turn may also weaken the finances of his party. If businessmen, who already find "new" Labour attractive, think that the Government is deserting them, they may switch loyalties or at least cease contributions to the Conservatives.

There was plenty that ministers could have done without legislation. If executive pay was for shareholders to determine, then the Government could have used its large shareholdings in many of the utilities to curb any excesses. And the Chancellor could have changed the tax treatment of share options to encourage directors actually to buy shares in their companies rather than simply hold options. Then they, like other shareholders, would be subject to losses as well as gains.

Meanwhile, ministers will continue to be punished for the weaknesses of the regulators whom they appointed and the regimes that they designed. It is astonishing if Professor Littlechild did not realise how rich the Recs were until Northern Electric offered its shareholders a huge bribe to resist the Trafalgar House bid. What was the regulator doing if not poring over the electricity companies' books? And what was the Government doing in designing a system that allowed the Recs to make such huge monopoly profits? Ministers may remain at one remove, but in the case of these utilities, they will never be able to distance themselves far enough to escape political damage.

AN HONEST ANNIVERSARY

Britain is right to refer to VJ-Day

The British Government's refusal to change the name of VJ-Day to something more anodyne is an admirable contrast to the decision of other countries not to use the term in this year's 50th anniversary celebrations. The final surrender to the Allies in August 1945 has always been marked as "Victory over Japan Day". As a result, the letters "VJ" are powerfully symbolic to those who lived through the war in the Far East. This symbolism has not stopped the other Allied countries which are marking the anniversary from dropping the term.

America has chosen "End of the War" as its substitute; Canada prefers "Canada remembers"; and Australia and New Zealand have compromised with "Victory in the Pacific". The extent to which this change has been made in response to formal Japanese representations is unclear. Yet it is obvious that these nations now regard the sensibilities of the Japanese as more important than the feelings of their surviving veterans. This is a lamentable victory of political correctness and craven diplomatic thinking over dignified national pride.

How a country commemorates its historic victories is a matter of legitimate debate. The organisation of the anniversary celebrations for D-Day and VE-Day has proved far more testing in this respect than the British Government first suspected. It may be argued — as it has been — that international reconciliation should form as important a part of such events as the celebration of past military triumphs. No civilised nation seeks to offend its former adversaries gratuitously. Equally, however, no civilised nation should be expected to conceal anything in its past merely to avoid upsetting other countries.

The fact that Japan was defeated in a just war is inescapable: it cannot be buried in polite euphemism. To rename a historic event is not simply a matter of nomenclature. It signifies the importance with which a society invests that event. The flight of James II and the accession of William of Orange were not widely described as "Glorious" until the French Revolution showed Englishmen how much worse things might have been. Likewise, historians have often tried to re-name the English Civil War to indicate their view of its meaning.

Marxists have called it a "Puritan Revolution"; regional historians describe it as a "Revolt of the Provinces"; institutional historians interested in the origins of the Union see the conflict as the "War of the Three Kingdoms". The names we use to describe such events are richly symbolic. To rename VJ-Day would therefore be more than a matter of political convenience. It would be a profound statement about one of the most important moments in our recent past, marking the end of a titanic global struggle.

One of the most pernicious tendencies of post-modern thinking has been to regard history as an infinitely malleable "text" which may be deconstructed and manipulated as the historian sees fit. This approach should be resisted fiercely. All history, of course, is interpretative. All history is an encounter between past and present. But the concerns of the present should not be allowed to distort the past beyond recognition; nor should the past be made the servant of present politics. It may suit some of Japan's modern trading partners to obscure its role in the Second World War. The British Government is right to dissociate itself from this ill-conceived dishonesty.

TWIN PIQUE

Cities, like people, must choose their partners with care

Raising happy twins is demanding and, when siblings fall out, the hurt can be deep and lasting. Municipal bonds are no less fragile, and Ripon, the cathedral city in Yorkshire, is nursing the rebuffs it has received from the burghers of Foix, a pretty market town at the foot of the Pyrenees. Thirty-eight years ago the two were joined in fraternal friendship, erected boundary signs acknowledging the link and exchanged ornate scrolls to hang in their council chambers. But, like a long-distance marriage, the affair withered. No football teams exchange shirts, no schoolchildren attend each other's classes. Ripon Council's patience has now snapped and it has vetoed money to keep the link alive. Foix, meanwhile, has sheepishly admitted that its heart belongs to its other twin in Spain, a mere two hours away.

Keighley was the pioneer of urban matchmaking, establishing its link with Poix-du-Nord in 1920. But the movement really got going after the Second World War. The aim was lofty: reconciliation amid the devastation. Wartime suffering united ruined cities, and in 1944 Coventry formally associated itself with Stalingrad. Other wartime siblings followed — Arnhem, Warsaw and Lidice in Czechoslovakia. The most important link was with Dresden — a vibrant connection still proving its worth, as the recent commemorative ceremonies in Dresden showed.

Twinning rapidly became a fad. Towns, boroughs and even villages sought out counterparts in warmer climes — preferably in France, where the cuisine was renowned, the setting idyllic and the chance for Clochemerle junketing irresistible. Some were inspired — Edinburgh and Munich, for example — some obvious, such as Dover and Calais, and some bizarre, such as Oxford and Bonn. Bath, Chester or Chichester never lacked suitors. But pity the poor boroughs in Cleveland, the Welsh Valleys or the east London suburbs: who, apart from ugly sisters in Lille or Recklinghausen would have them?

In fact, like marriages, some of the oddest links are the most enduring. Political protest and Soviet blandishments seduced left-wing councils. But the resulting twinnings have endured: Minsk still thinks a lot of Nottingham, and Coventry, with a record of 26 links, has collected aid for its battered twin Sarajevo. One wonders what Warrington, of vodka fame, makes now of Zugdidi in Georgia. Luxembourg of Camden or Haifa of Hackney. But links such as fish (for Reykjavik and Hull) or ethnicity (Rochdale and Sahiwal, Pakistan) show that modern twinning is not just about council trips, but trade, development, culture and sport.

There are still 150 towns in Britain seeking overseas twins: gratifyingly, twice as many abroad are seeking siblings here. When the affair takes root, urban happiness radiates across the Channel. But, like computer dating, things can go wrong: each town has to check out its prospective mate's vital statistics. As Ripon found, cities, like people, can sometimes prove fickle.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

1 Pennington Street, London E1 9XN Telephone 0171-782 5000

Many lessons still to be learnt from collapse of Barings

From Mr David Whitby

Sir, The Bank of England must accept its share of, if not the full responsibility for the collapse of Barings (letters, March 1, 2, 4, 6). Without doubt, there were serious flaws in Barings's risk-management and trading skills in the highly volatile derivatives market; but the Bank has obviously failed to learn any lessons from the 1992 report of the Bingham inquiry into the supervision of BCCI, and is still facing civil action for negligence.

In 1984-86 BCCI ran up massive losses in its money market operation, speculating in commodities and financial futures through its affiliated broking company, Capcom Financial Services. BCCI's head of treasury, also a director of Capcom, was indicted for drug money laundering offences in Florida shortly afterwards. Capcom appears to have remained "unregulated" and is still actively trading in futures and derivatives.

The Bank has dismissed the plausible claim, made by Barings's chairman (report, March 1), that Barings was the victim of an inside fraud by dealers seeking to enhance their annual bonus, while booking losses to the Barings investment portfolio.

It would be all too easy for a crooked dealer, given minimal risk-management supervision, to use the derivatives market to create a trading profit by using interest-rate swaps. Clearly, there must have been a conspiracy to defraud Barings, involving more than just one "rogue trader" in Singapore.

It is a tragedy that the new Governor has failed to rescue Barings, and thereby destroyed the credibility of the "Bill on London", where Barings' acceptances were once "as good as gold".

It is also ironic that his predecessor permitted BCCI to achieve full banking status and continue trading for another five years after the massive fraud in its treasury operations had been uncovered.

Yours faithfully,
DAVID WHITBY (member, BCCI Private Study Group),
Hartley Cottage,
Headley Lane, Passfield,
Nr Liphook, Hampshire.
March 7.

From Lord Davies

Sir, The Barings debacle has drawn attention to the dangers inherent in the payment of bonuses that are much larger than basic salaries. This system of remuneration effectively detaches the motivation of the employees in risk businesses from the interests of investors, by rewarding them hugely for the upside of risk decisions but restricting their downside to potential loss of salary, often softened by substantial severance payments.

A similar system has already contributed substantially to the Lloyd's disaster, and may yet lead to problems in the privatised utilities and elsewhere, where huge share option schemes provide directors with "heads I win, tails you lose" motivation on risk-taking.

Yours faithfully,
DAVID DAVIES,
Plas Dinam, Llandinam, Powys.
March 2.

From Mr Gary J. R. Garland

Sir, The saddest aspect of the Barings affair is that when the chips were down and the City was asked to try to save Barings all the good and the great who earn mega-money got cold feet and ran for cover. It has been left to ING, the Dutch bank, to come to the rescue — obviously spotting a good long-term investment.

Surely, most people will be asking why the City, if it is still a leading force in world finance, did not find the solution. Could it be that like so many other aspects of British commerce and industry, the City is becoming a second-rate centre which will, if it is not careful, be eclipsed by the more forward-thinking financial forces such as Frankfurt and Tokyo?

Yours faithfully,
GARY GARLAND,
44 Saltwell Road South,
Low Fell, Gateshead, Tyne and Wear.

From Mr Peter Hobday

Sir, Anyone facing trial for commercial crime in Singapore and found guilty will encounter a tough approach. If found guilty of "criminal breach of trust" he could get three to six years. If found guilty under Singapore's futures trading Act he faces seven years in prison and a fine of $100,000. And a charge of "cheating" carries a sentence of ten years.

The UK, in contrast, appears to have a policy of positive discrimination for commercial crime. Everyone seems resigned to the encouraging way in which our laws treat business and City crime.

Surely we should adopt Singapore's tough approach to commercial crime as soon as possible.

Yours etc,
PETER HOBDAY,
Gweal-an-Drea, Polurrian Road,
Mullion, Cornwall.

From Professor Allan Solomon

Sir, Of course Professor Tim Congdon (letter, March 4) is right: there is a difference between an investor and a depositor. If I gambled £100 on a bank share I would be disappointed but not surprised if my investment became worthless. If I deposited £100 in a bank on Monday I would be most surprised not to find it there on Tuesday.

In the case of depositors in banks and building societies, can the Government not institute a limited guarantee scheme, such as that operated for many years by the US federal Government in the case of savings and loan societies?

Yours etc,
ALLAN SOLOMON,
43 The Gardens,
Watford, Hertfordshire.

From Lord Jellicoe

Sir, Some of your readers may agree and some may disagree with the tenor of Bernard Levin's article on the Barings collapse (March 3) which carried the headline, "All agreed in greed".

What I found surprising — indeed shocking — is that nowhere in his article did Bernard Levin mention the wonderfully generous support which the Baring Foundation has given over the years to innumerable charities and to many other good causes — a support not altogether consonant with the headline.

Yours faithfully,
JELLICOE,
House of Lords.

Homeless as well as without hope

From the Provost and Chapter of Southwark Cathedral

Sir, One of the several homeless people who regularly come to this cathedral for help called on us again recently. We learn that the shelter where she lives is to be closed at the end of March because all cold-weather shelters will close then. These are part of the "rough sleepers initiative" for which government funding is scheduled to end in March 1996.

The hostel from which our female visitor comes turns away three or four people every night. On the night of November 17-18, 1994, no fewer than 204 people were turned away from shelters in central London as there was no more room.

What is the hope for the rehabilitation of homeless people if they are accommodated and assisted only from October to March? Is it somehow envisaged (was it ever?) that all the homeless and mentally ill people on our streets will disappear in 1996?

We read of privatised utilities declaring massive profits, often following staff redundancies, and outrageously high executive pay rises excused with a shrug because that is the level "the market" requires.

Unless the market is checked by other values, its bias to the rich can only increase. The bias of the kingdom of God is on the side of the poor and the disadvantaged.

We cannot continue to pray daily, as we do, that God's kingdom will come, and work towards it, without at the same time holding our Government accountable to God for the increasing social deprivation around us, and reminding it of the call of Amos: "Let justice roll down like waters, and righteousness like an ever flowing stream" (RSV, Amos v, 24).

Yours faithfully,
COLIN B. SLEE (Provost),
ROY WHITE
(Vice-Provost and Precentor),
DAVID ATKINSON
(Chancellor and Missioner),
D. PAINTER (Canon Treasurer),
M. KITCHEN (Canon residentiary),
Southwark Cathedral,
Montague Close, SE1.
March 4.

Student numbers

From Mr James Bourlet

Sir, Under the headline, "A hidden army will go on to higher education" (Education, March 6), you report that the proportion of 18-year-olds who will go on to higher education would be likely to rise substantially from the present 60 per cent as soon as "students and employers meet more of the costs of education".

An "army" indeed! What are we doing? Qualifications for entry and for passing courses are being reduced so that students need do little more than serve their time in order to obtain a "qualification". Meanwhile more and more students are being housed at university in residential blocks for all the world resembling servicemen's barracks.

I suggest that what we are doing is replacing the old National Service with university study. At similar cost we are enticing every 18-year-old to spend a period before work in the bidding of the State.

This seems an abuse of what university education should and did stand for.

Further it allows secondary education to evade any responsibility for preparing our children for competition in the job market by allowing schools to claim success merely on the basis of university placements.

Surely it would be better to allow universities to prepare the academically outstanding for intellectually challenging careers, and work towards the German model where the majority of school leavers do some sort of real "professional training" or apprenticeship in a real business.

Yours faithfully,
JAMES BOURLET
(Honorary Secretary),
Economic Research Council,
239 Shaftesbury Avenue, WC2.
March 6.

Prison visits

From Mrs Janet Harber

Sir, The comments by Miss Nemone Lethbridge on the family visitors to a prison (letters, February 24, March 3) are offensive and not relevant to her complaint about access to a prisoner. Perhaps her observations were made from the warmth and comfort of a car.

Her comments did not take into account the fact that the "steady stream of wives and sweethearts" had probably made long cross-country journeys by public transport, often with young children.

Many prisoners' families depend on income support and experience considerable stress in maintaining relationships with their relatives in prison.

Visiting a relative in prison is crucial for the maintenance of family ties, especially for children, and blanket allegations of drug-taking or smuggling are not helpful.

Yours etc,
JANET HARBER
(Chair, Federation of Prisoners' Families Support Groups),
Cambridge House,
Cambridge Grove, W6.
February 24.

Landmine controls

From Mr David Davis, Minister of State, Foreign and Commonwealth Office

Sir, I entirely agree with your editorial of March 3 that the case for strong international controls on the use of anti-personnel landmines has never been stronger.

Britain has neither manufactured nor exported anti-personnel landmines for well over a decade. We are in the forefront of international efforts to ensure that landmines are used responsibly, and we intend to play a full part in the review conference of the United Nations Weaponry Convention in September 1995 with a view both to strengthening the controls on the use of landmines and ensuring the widest possible adherence.

A world free of landmines is a laudable objective, but not one on which international agreement would be possible. At this stage a complete ban would neither secure broad international support nor be properly implemented. It is therefore right that we concentrate our efforts on realistic measures to protect civilians.

Another important practical element of our policy is our support for activities designed to allow civilians to return safely to areas which have been mined. Britain has over the last three years contributed through the Overseas Development Agency some £8.6 million to demining operations in Afghanistan, Angola, Cambodia, Mozambique, Northern Iraq, Rwanda, Somalia and Yemen. These programmes have covered education in mine awareness and demining training, as well as mine clearance itself.

Yours faithfully,
DAVID DAVIS,
Foreign and Commonwealth Office,
King Charles Street, SW1.
March 3.

From Mr George Aitken

Sir, The successful clearance of small hard-to-detect mines (often in plastic cases and therefore largely non-biodegradable) in large areas of unmapped minefields may well never be complete.

"Civilised" countries may impose a moratorium on the production and export of any other than the more technically-advanced "smart" mines, with self-destruct or cancelling characteristics built in. But a basic anti-personnel mine is one of the simplest and cheapest items in the military inventory. It can be, in fact has been, made in substantial numbers in less-developed countries. Production requires little above "backyard-workshop" facilities, and the mines can cost perhaps as little as five or six dollars each, especially in countries with low labour costs.

Even if such mines are not, by Western military standards, of high reliability, this is unimportant if they are being laid in large numbers in unrecorded minefields. Even at, say, 70 per cent reliability they would constitute a hazard of considerable magnitude and near-indefinite duration.

Yours faithfully,
GEORGE AITKEN,
Whitrig, Coldstream, Berwickshire.
March 6.

From Sir Nicholas Barrington

Sir, Although I visited many Afghans in hospital tragically maimed by landmines I have for some time thought it unrealistic to expect governments or other groups to renounce the use of mines completely; they are too useful a defensive weapon. Instead I have advocated a half-way house.

There should be an international agreement, rigidly enforced, that landmines can only be produced and sold if they include a mechanism to self-destruct after three years. The technology should not be insuperable.

This would allow sites that are now no-go areas eventually to revert to peaceful occupation. Governments and manufacturers should be ready to co-operate. The latter may sell more mines. But they will not leave areas of the world (eg, in the Falklands) permanently scarred and neutered.

Yours etc,
NICHOLAS BARRINGTON
(Ambassador and High Commissioner to Pakistan, 1987-94; non-resident Ambassador to Afghanistan, 1994),
The Athenaeum,
Pall Mall, SW1.
March 4.

World upside down

From Mr A. McCormack

Sir, Early this morning we heard that our church had been burgled for the second time in six months. Doors have been forced, the safe and other boxes broken open. Money and personal belongings have been stolen, as well as the chalices bought after the previous theft last year. Of course, the areas affected have been left in a mess.

On then picking up *The Times*, I read a report that "inmates" of British prisons "will soon be able to consult a consumer's guide on the conditions, regimes and facilities they should have and the best jail to which to seek transfer".

Are we completely mad?

Yours faithfully,
A. McCORMACK,
6 Hillside Avenue, Worthing, Sussex.
March 6.

Inflation-proof

From Professor R. M. Hardisty

Sir, You report (March 2) that the total value of PC Philip Gage's find of Roman coins, "which is believed to be worth up to £50,000 today, was equivalent to a year's pay in Roman times for a skilled professional such as a doctor".

Isn't it still? If you want to keep up with inflation over 1,600 years, don't bank your money — bury it!

Yours faithfully,
R. M. HARDISTY,
4 Ruskin Close, NW11.
March 2.

Mountain rescues

From Mr G. P. A. Thompson

Sir, Every winter — with infuriating regularity — there are reports of "adventurers" who choose to climb Ben Nevis or other high mountains in bad or snowy conditions. Frequently they get lost or injured and then, within hours, teams on foot and helicopters in the air face risks and discomfort in the search for these undeserving perishers.

Many Swiss guides have long since let it be known that those who elect to climb the north face of the Eiger in winter may not be rescued.

I propose that those wishing to climb Ben Nevis (or similar) in winter months should first be required to deposit in cash, say £100, at Fort William Police Station. This deposit may be reclaimed on return if no rescue has been mounted.

The amount could be increased at the discretion of the police if weather conditions are bad. Such a scheme might discourage the foolhardiness of climbers setting out in unsuitable weather.

There is a great difference between foolhardiness and bravery. The climbers are foolhardy, the rescuers are brave.

Yours faithfully,
G. P. A. THOMPSON,
Dunval Hall,
Bridgnorth, Shropshire.
March 1.

Letters should carry a daytime telephone number. They may be faxed to 0171-782 5046.

Hunting the fox

From Mr Peter T. Warhurst

Sir, I am neutral in the debate on the ethics of hunting (letters, March 3, 6) but it seems to me that both sides could be satisfied if the hounds were fitted with muzzles for the chase.

Yours faithfully,
P. T. WARHURST,
4 Mortimer Road,
Bournemouth, Dorset.
March 6.

Distant encounters

From Mr Victor Ferguson

Sir, Weston-super-Mare must surely be accorded the first cuckoo sighting of 1995, with the revelation of the Green Party's "non-predatory embrace" (report, March 6).

Yours politically correctly,
VICTOR FERGUSON,
Hockett End,
Cookham Dean, Berkshire.
March 6.

From Mr David Waller

Sir, Was not the Green Party's politically correct hug practised 30 years ago by Eric Morecambe on Ernie Wise? I suspect that the rapid-fire slap to the cheek that followed it would now be considered too "predatory" for modern tastes.

Your servant,
D. WALLER,
27 Foxholes Lane,
Altofts, Normanton, West Yorkshire.
March 7.

COURT CIRCULAR

BUCKINGHAM PALACE
March 7: The Queen held an Investiture at Buckingham Palace *this morning*.

The Rt Hon John Major MP (Prime Minister and First Lord of the Treasury) had an audience of Her Majesty this evening.

The Duke of Edinburgh, Patron and Trustee, today attended Receptions at St James's Palace for young people who have achieved the Gold Standard in The Duke of Edinburgh's Award.

His Royal Highness, Patron, gave a Luncheon for the Outward Bound Trust at Buckingham Palace.

The Duke of Edinburgh, President, this afternoon chaired a meeting of the Royal Mint Advisory Committee at Buckingham Palace.

His Royal Highness, President, Central Council of Physical Recreation, this evening attended a Reception followed by Supper at *Guildhall, London EC2*.

Major Charles Richards was in attendance.

The Queen was represented by Lieutenant Colonel Sir John Miller (Extra Equerry) at the Memorial Service for the Viscount Cowdray which was held in St Paul's Church, Knightsbridge, London SW1, today.

The Duke of Edinburgh was represented by Colonel Gerard Leigh (Extra Gentleman Usher).

The Prince of Wales was represented by Lieutenant Commander Robert de Pass.

Princess Alexandra, the Hon Lady Ogilvy, was represented by Major Sir Peter Clarke.

Lady Dugdale has succeeded Mrs Robert de Pass as Lady in Waiting to Her Majesty.

BUCKINGHAM PALACE
March 7: The Prince Edward this afternoon left Royal Air Force Northolt to visit the Salon International de l'Automobile, Genève, at the PALEXPO, Geneva, Switzerland.

Lieutenant Colonel Sean O'Dwyer *is in attendance*.

BUCKINGHAM PALACE
March 7: The Princess Royal this morning carried out engagements *in Saidpur*.

Her Royal Highness, President, Save the Children Fund, *this* afternoon undertook engagements *in Dhaka*.

The Princess Royal this evening attended a Dinner given by the Prime Minister of Bangladesh (Begum Khaldea Zia).

CLARENCE HOUSE
March 7: Queen Elizabeth The Queen Mother today received Ssabasajja Kabaka of Buganda.

The Lady Angela Oswald has succeeded Mrs Michael Gordon-Lennox as Lady-in-Waiting to Her Majesty.

ST JAMES'S PALACE
March 7: The Prince of Wales this afternoon addressed the Local *Agenda 21 Conference, organised* by the Local Government Management Board, and joined delegates for Luncheon at the Café Royal, London W1.

Commander Richard Aylard RN was in attendance.

His Royal Highness later visited *the Security Service Headquarters in London*.

Mr Stephen Lamport was in attendance.

The Prince of Wales afterwards received the Chief of the Defence Staff (Field Marshal Sir Peter Inge).

His Royal Highness, President, The Prince's Youth Business Trust, this evening attended the new production of "Hamlet" by the Almeida Theatre Company at the Hackney Empire, Mare Street, London E8.

Dr Manon Williams was in *attendance*.

KENSINGTON PALACE
March 7: The Princess of Wales, President, the Hospital for Sick Children, Great Ormond Street, this morning received Sir Brian Hill (Chairman) and Sir Anthony Tippet (Chief Executive).

KENSINGTON PALACE
March 7: The Duchess of Gloucester this afternoon opened the Jewish Blind and Physically Handicapped Society's Sheltered Housing Complex — Cecil Rosen Court, 327-331 East Lane, North Wembley, Middlesex.

Mrs Howard Page was in attendance.

YORK HOUSE
ST JAMES'S PALACE
March 7: The Duchess of Kent this morning visited the Liverpool Family Service Unit Headquarters, Edge Lane, Liverpool, and was met on arrival by Her Majesty's Lord-Lieutenant for Merseyside (Mr Alan Waterworth).

Her Royal Highness, Patron, this afternoon opened the Burns and Plastic Surgery Unit, Alder Hey Children's Hospital, Eaton Road, Liverpool, and later attended Evensong, Liverpool Anglican Cathedral, Liverpool.

The Duchess of Kent this evening attended a dinner, the University of Liverpool, Liverpool, Merseyside.

Mrs Peter Troughton was in attendance.

THATCHED HOUSE LODGE
RICHMOND PARK
March 7: Princess Alexandra, Patron, this afternoon visited the CARE Community at Rowde, Wiltshire, and was received by Her Majesty's Lord-Lieutenant for Wiltshire (Field Marshal Sir Roland Gibbs).

The Lady Mary Mumford was in attendance.

JOHN GILES



Fresh snow on the high ground of the Pennines yesterday gave a wintry look to corners of Coverdale, North Yorkshire

Luncheons

HM Government
Mr Malcolm Rifkind, QC, Secretary of State for Defence, was the host yesterday at a luncheon given by Her Majesty's Government at Lancaster House in honour of General Domenico Corcione, Italian Minister for Defence.

HM Government
The Hon Douglas Hogg, QC, Minister of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs, was the host yesterday at a luncheon given by Her Majesty's Government in the Locarno Room of the Foreign and Commonwealth Office, in honour of Dr Irfan Ljubijankic, Foreign Minister of Bosnia-Herzegovina.

Maple Leaf Club
Mr Jack Craine, Director of the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation, Europe, was the guest of honour at a luncheon of the Maple Leaf Club held yesterday at the Royal Over-Seas League. Mrs Judith M. Steiner, chairman of the club, presided. Mr Graham Wiffen, vice-chairman, also spoke.

Anniversaries

BIRTHS: Carl Philipp Emanuel Bach, composer, Weimar, Germany, 1714; Richard Howe, Earl Howe, admiral, London, 1726; Kenneth Grahame, author of *The Wind in the Willows*, Edinburgh, 1859; Frederic William Goudy, typographer, Bloomington, Illinois, 1865; Otto Hahn, pioneer of nuclear fission, Nobel laureate 1944, Frankfurt-am Main, 1879.

DEATHS: King William III, reigned with Mary II 1689-94, then *alone to 1702, London, 1702*; Abraham Darby, iron founder, Worcester, 1717; Hector Berlioz, composer, Paris, 1869; Henry Ward Beecher, preacher, Brookline, Massachusetts, 1887; John Ericsson, pioneer of the screw propeller, New York, 1889; Count Ferdinand von Zeppelin, airship constructor, Charlottenburg, Germany, 1917; Sir Thomas Beecham, conductor, London, 1961; Harold Lloyd, film comedian, Beverly Hills, 1971; Richard Austen Butler, politician, Great Yeldham, Essex, 1982; *Sir William Walton*, composer, Ischia, 1983.

Memorial services

Viscount Cowdray
The Queen was represented by Lieutenant Colonel Sir John Miller and the Duke of Edinburgh by Colonel Gerard Leigh at a memorial service for Viscount Cowdray held yesterday at St Paul's, Knightsbridge.

*The Prince of Wales was repre*sented by Lieutenant Commander Robert de Pass and Princess Alexandra by Major Sir Peter Clarke.

The Ven Derek Hayward officiated, assisted by the Rev Christopher Courtauld. The Hon Jane MacNaughton, daughter, read *Psalm 121* and Viscount Cowdray, son, read from Chaucer's *The Canterbury Tales*. Lord Gibson gave an address. The Ambassador of Argentina was represented by Señor Juan Peña and the Lord *Lieutenant* of West Sussex by Colonel Sir Brian Bartlelot.

Among others present were:
Elizabeth Viscountess Cowdray (widow), the Hon Charles and Mrs Pearson (son and daughter-in-law), the Hon Teresa Stopford Sackville and the Hon Rosanna Taylor (daughters), Mr Charles and the Hon Mrs Fraser (son-in-law and daughter), Viscountess Cowdray (daughter-in-law), Miss Shona Stopford Sackville, Mr Thomas Stopford Sackville, the Hon Mrs Daphne Lakin (sister), Viscount and Viscountess Blakenham, Lord and Lady Cranworth, the Hon Emily Hare, the Hon Cressida Hare, the Hon Caspar Hare, Mr and Mrs Harold Carter, Mr and Mrs Michael Lakin, Mr and Mrs John Dorman, Mr Rory Dorman, Miss Shara Dorman, Mr and Mrs John Fis, the Hon Lady Smith *Ryland, Mr and Mrs Mark Burrell*, Lieutenant-Colonel R Campbell-Preston, Mr Robin Gurdon, the Countess of Iveagh, the Earl of Iveagh, Miss Pat MacInnes, Mrs Sarah Troughton, and other members of the family.

The Duke of Fife, the Duke of Marlborough, the Duke and Duchess of Richmond and Gordon, the Marquess and Marchioness of Milford Haven, the Marchioness of Cholmondeley, the Marquess of Waterford, the Marquess of Abergavenny, KG, and the Marchioness of Abergavenny, the Earl of Liverpool, the Earl of Tyrone, the Dowager Countess of Westmorland, the Earl of Westmorland, the Earl of Arran, the Countess of Ancram, Viscount Duncannon, Lord Patrick Beresford, Lady Rupert Nevill.

Lord Rendlesham, Lord and Lady Holderness, Lord and Lady Kindersley, *Lord Norreys, Lord Fairfax of* Cameron, Lady Bonham-Carter, Flora Lady Astor of Hever, Lady Tweedsmuir, Lady Gibson, Lady Egremont, Lord and Lady Beaverbrook, Barbara Lady Poole, Lord and Lady King of Wartnaby, Daphne Lady Poole, Lady Angela Whiteley, Lady Sarah Churon, Lady Emma Gulnness, Lady Helen Smith, Lady Serena Bridgeman, Lady Caroline Ogilvy, Lady Elizabeth Longman.

The Hon Mrs Bridge, the Hon Mark Vesey, the Hon Mrs Clifford, the Hon Mrs Rupert Soames, the Hon Hugh Gibson (Royal Doulton), the Hon William Gibson, the Hon Piers and Mrs Gibson, Sir Toby Clarke (representing the Standing Council of the Baronetage), Sir Richard Pease, Sir Beresby and Lady Sitwell, Sir Henry Warner, Sir Martyn Beckett, Sir George and Lady Reynard, Sir Giles and Lady Loder, Sir Edward Ford, Sir Michael Simpson-Orlebar (British-Mexican Society), General Sir Richard and the Hon Lady Worsley, Sir Ian Fraser, Admiral Sir Benjamin Bathurst.

Mr Peter and Lady Elisabeth Oldfield, Mr Howard and Lady Camilla Hipwood, Baron Vaes, the Prince and Princess of Hanover, Mr and Mrs Richard Worsley, Mr and Mrs Jeremy Palmer-Tomkinson, Mrs Anthony Nelson, Mr Christopher Hanbury, Mr H Bamberg, Mr Michael Sayers, QC, Mr and Mrs John Cordle, Mr and Mrs Rupert Cordle, Mrs G Leigh, Mrs *Angela More-Ferrall, Mrs Sally Morris*, Miss Margaret Tewkesbury, Mr Christopher Melluish, Ms Annette Lawless, Mr Ivo Tennant, Mr David Benson, Mr Charles Lawton.

Mr and Mrs T Geraghty, Mr and Mrs N Spencer, Mr and Mrs Simon Tomlinson, Mr and Mrs Sebastian de Ferranti, Mr Hugo de Ferranti, Mr and Mrs Mark Armitage, Mr and Mrs Michael Clark, Mr Nicholas Craig-Harvey, Mr David Peacy, Lieutenant-Colonel Sean O'Dwyer, Mr John Hine, Mrs Andrew Duncan, Brigadier John Wright, Mrs Ian Pilkington, Brigadier Andrew Parker Bowles, Mr Anthony Embleton, Mr and Mrs John Hale, Mr Robin Smith-Ryland, Mr Andrew Christie-Miller, Major Hugo Waterhouse, Major John Watson, Miss Lucinda Craig-Harvey, Mrs J W M Crisp.

Mrs R More-O'Ferrall, Mrs Vincent Paravicini, Mr and Mrs Nigel Tatham, *Mr Anthony Burrell, Brigadier* Douglas Nugent, Mr Francis Grant, Mr and Mrs Robie Uniacke, Mr and Mrs Simon Boscawen, Mrs A Mackay, M D F Pawson, Mr Harold Sebag-Montefiore, Captain and Mrs John Macdonald-Buchanan, Mr Harry Westropp, Mr James Illingworth, Mr Ronald Warlow, Miss Jane Dollar, Mr Frank Grant, Mr George Bathurst, Mrs G H Goff, Mrs Richard Hambro, Mr Peter Owen, Mr Nicholas Cobbold, Mr Christopher Penn, the Rev Dr Martin Israel, Mrs Tim Bathbone, Mr James Joll, Mrs Martin Drury, Mr Mark Wrey, Mr Tim Fane, Mr Tim Hoare, Mr Henry Berens, Mr Richard Palmer, Mr James Lee, Mr Harold Carter and Ms T Silkstone, Mr Michael Thomson, Mr Tim Holland-Martin.

Mr Peter Vogte (British Field Sports Society), Mr John Archer (Hurlingham Club), Mrs G Lines (Enfield Chase Pony Club), Mr David Walton-Masters (Schools and Universities Polo Association), Mr Cameron Walton-Masters (captain, Oxford University Polo Club), Colonel Geoffrey Godbold (Ham Polo Club, The Taunton Vale Polo Club and Millfield School Polo Club), Mr John Tylor (Hurlingham Polo Association and the Kirtlington Park Polo Club), Mr A J V Villers (joint-master, Chiddingfold, Leconfield and Cowdray Hunt) with Mr and Mrs Martin Reed; Mr S F Knight (Leconfield Estate, Smith Gore), Mr J Lemon (Captain, Cowdray Park Golf Club).

Mr Frank Goodale (Midhurst Cricket Club), Mr and Mrs Colin Seavill (Rudland Polo Club), Mrs Angela Church and Mrs E Christian (Cowdray Hunt Pony Club), Mrs Bernard Gordon-Lennox (representing the chairman Guards Polo Club), Mr John Lloyd (US Polo Magazine), Dr Alan Hayes and Dr Ivor Gabe (King Edward VII Hospital, Midhurst), Mr Michael Wyndham (chairman, White's) with Mr David Ward (secretary); Mr Tony Duveen (Sussex Yeomanry), Mr John A Davies (Loriners' Company), Mr Ian Douglas (factor, The Dunech Estate), Mr Robert Windle (agent, The Cowdray Estate) with Mr Martin Dearden and other members of the estate staff; and representatives of Lazards and Millbank Financial Services with many other friends.

Mr Julian Belfrage
A service of thanksgiving and celebration for the life of Mr Julian Belfrage, theatrical agent, was held yesterday at St James's Piccadilly. The Rev Donald Reeves officiated. Mr Alan Howard read the lesson.

Dame Judi Dench read from the works of Canon Henry Scott Holland, Mr Ian Holm read *At Grass* by Philip Larkin, Mr Daniel Day-Lewis read *Lights Out* by Edward Thomas and Mr Rupert Belfrage, son, read *Lord Hippo* by Hilaire Belloc. Miss Ann Bell read a poem by Joyce Grenfell, Mr Brian Kenny read from the works of Victor Hugo, Mr Robert Lang read *The Owl and the Pussycat* by Edward Lear, Miss Penelope Wilton read from *How Shall I word it?* by Max Beerbohm and Mr Crispian Belfrage, son, read Pearman's *The Londonderry Air*. Mr Dan Abbott gave an address.

Edward Stevens, boy treble, sang *Pie Jesu* from Fauré's *Requiem* and the Choir of St James's sang Leonard Bernstein's *Tonight, Tonight*, William Walton's *Set Me as a Seal*, and Frank Loesser's *Sit down you're rocking the boat*.

Professor P.C.C. Garnham
A memorial service for Professor Percy Cyril Claude Garnham, protozoologist, was held yesterday at St Bartholomew-the-Great, West Smithfield. The Rev C.J Meyrick, grandson, officiated. Mrs Cicely Alden, daughter, and Mr Jasper Garnham, son, read the lessons. Professor Wallace Peters gave an address.

Memorial meeting

The Hon Michael Summerskill
A memorial meeting for the Hon Michael Brynmôr Summerskill, barrister and marine insurer, was held yesterday in Gray's Inn Hall, Gray's Inn. Mr Ben Hooberman welcomed the guests. Lord *Rodgers of Quarry Bank* and Lord Mustill gave addresses.

Today's royal engagements

The Queen, accompanied by the Duke of Edinburgh, will visit St Luke's Hospital for the Clergy, 14 *Fitzroy Square, W1*, at 3.00.

The Duke of Edinburgh, as Freeman and Liveryman of the Fishmongers' Company, will attend the court dinner to Masters and Clerks at Fishmongers' Hall at 7.15.

The Prince of Wales, as Duke of Cornwall, will open The Prince of Wales School, Maiden Castle Road, Castle Park, at 2.15; and as President of the Prince's Trusts, will be the host at a reception for supporters of the trusts at the Poundbury Centre, Bridport Road, Dorchester, at 3.25.

Princess Margaret, as patron, will visit the Zebra Trust Hostel and open the new common room at Sentosa House, Upper Montagu Street, W1, at 6.30.

The Duchess of Kent will visit Wallasey School, Moreton, the Wirral, at 11.08; as patron, will visit the headquarters of Age Concern, Thomas Street, Liverpool, at 12.25; will visit the Woolton Resource Centre, High Street, at 1.30; and will open the South Liverpool Ambulance Station, Speke, at 3.00.

Dinners

Speaker
The Speaker gave a dinner last night in Speaker's House in honour of Mr Ceslovas Jursenas, Chairman of the Lithuanian Seimas. The Lithuanian Ambassador was present. The other guests were:
Sir Cranley Onslow, MP, Mr David Faber, MP, Mr Paul Flynn, MP, the Hon Greville Janner, MP, Mr Ieuan wyn Jones, MP, Mr Robert Litherland, MP, Mr Geoffrey Lofthouse, MP, Mr David Sumberg, MP, Mr Arunas Godunavicius, Mr Stasys Jursenas, Mr Alan Henderson, Mrs Karen Stanton and Mr Nicolas Bevan.

Institute of Wastes Management
Lord De Ramsey, Chairman of the Environment Agency Advisory Committee, was the principal guest and speaker at the annual presidential dinner of the Institute of Wastes Management held last night at the Institution of Civil Engineers. Mr John Leaver, president, presided.

London Goodenough Trust
Lady French, Chairman of the London Goodenough Trust for Overseas Graduates, and Major-General T.P. Toyne Sewell, director, received the guests at the annual law faculty dinner for residents of London House and William Goodenough House, held last night at Mecklenburgh Square.

Royal Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain
Miss Ann Lewis, President of the Royal Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain, presided at a dinner held last night at 1 Lambeth High Street. Mr James Fergusson, Chairman of the Bradford Family Health Services Authority also spoke.

Reception

Corporation of London
The Duke of Edinburgh, President, Central Council of Physical Recreation, was a speaker at a reception given by the Corporation of London at Guildhall yesterday to mark the 60th anniversary of the central council. The Lord Mayor also spoke. The chairman and members of the central council, members of both Houses of Parliament, Aldermen, Common Councilmen and officers of the Corporation of London and *their guests were among those* present.

Forthcoming marriages

Mr R.D. Arthur
and Miss K.L. Brunker
The engagement is announced between Richard, son of Mr and Mrs L.D. *Arthur, of St Helier*, Jersey, and Katherine, daughter of Mr and Mrs C.E. Brunker, of Surbiton, Surrey.

Mr T.E.J. Bannister
and Miss Y.S. Darraugh
The engagement is announced between Tom, son of Mr and Mrs Edward Bannister, of Kensington, and Yvette, daughter of Mr and Mrs Tom Darraugh, of Stalybridge.

Mr K.N. Bett
and Miss J.M. Laurence
The engagement is announced between Neil, son of Mr and Mrs Bryan Bett, of Edinburgh, and Jessica, daughter of Captain and Mrs Anthony Laurence, of Goring-on-Thames, Oxfordshire.

Mr N.J. Bunting
and Miss S.R. Lyon
The engagement is announced between Nigel, younger son of Mr *and Mrs Martin Bunting, of* Riseley, Berkshire, and Selina, daughter of Mr and Mrs H.D. Lyon, of Dallington, Sussex.

Mr P.A.C. Coombs
and Miss C.J.L. Urquhart
The engagement is announced between Piers, elder son of Colonel and Mrs Marcus Coombs, of Shrivenham, Wiltshire, and Carolyn, eldest daughter of the Hon William and Mrs Urquhart, of Kilmany, Fife.

Mr M. Hodgson
and Miss E. Drew
The engagement is announced between Emma, daughter of John and Rebecca Drew, and Mike, son of Brian and Lorna Hodgson.

Mr G.R.C. Manger
and Miss R.J. Molesworth
The engagement is announced between Gavin, son of Captain N.I.C. Manger, RN, and Mrs Manger, of Forest Row, Sussex, and Rachel, daughter of Mr and Mrs R.B. Molesworth, of Framfield, Sussex.

Mr M.J. Parker
and Miss K.B. Wainwright
The engagement is announced between Michael, eldest grandson of Mr and Mrs Jeffrey Frew, of Auckland, New Zealand, and Kathryn, eldest daughter of Mr and Mrs Rod Wainwright, of Chippenham, Wiltshire.

Mr M.G. Philips
and Miss J.C. Bateman
The engagement is announced between Mark, son of Mr and Mrs Jack Philips, of Henton, Oxon, and Jenny, daughter of Dr Christopher Bateman, of West Ashling, West Sussex and the late Mrs Hilary Bateman.

Mr W.M. Roach Jr.
and Miss H.L. Timms
The engagement is announced between William, eldest son of Mr and Mrs William Roach, of Kennebunkport, Maine, USA, and Harriet, eldest daughter of Mr Roy Timms, of London, and Mrs Susan Timms, of Northampton.

Mr A.J. Salmon
and Miss A.K. Cottrell
The engagement is announced between Andrew John, youngest son of Mr and Mrs Peter Salmon, of Raynes Park, London, and Alexandra Karen, younger daughter of the late Mr William F.S. Cottrell and of Mrs Elizabeth Cottrell, of Cross-in-Hand, East Sussex.

Appointment

Mr Mike Heath to be Director General of the Engineering Council from May 1, in succession to Mr Denis Filer who is retiring. Mr Heath, a former Army Director General of Equipment Support, is a Chartered Engineer, and a Fellow of *the Institution of Electrical Engineers* and of the Institute of Management.

Birthdays

Major-General Sir Christopher Airy, royal equerry, 61; Sir John Badenoch, physician, 75; Mr Nicolas Bevan, Speaker's Secretary, 53; *Mr Gyles Brandreth, MP, 47*; Sir Julian Bullard, diplomat, 67; Professor Sir Donald Campbell, former president, Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Glasgow, 65; Sir Anthony Caro, sculptor, 71; Sir James Comyn, former High Court judge, 74; Mr Phil Edmonds, cricketer, 44; Mr Michael Grade, chief executive, Channel 4, 52; the Hon Douglas Hurd, Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs, 65; Mr Michael Inchbald, designer, 75; *Miss Ann Jenner*, ballerina, 51; Miss Lynn Redgrave, actress, 52; Rabbi Dr Jonathan Sacks, Chief Rabbi, 47; Miss Lynn Seymour, ballerina, 56; Professor S.K. Smith, obstetrician and gynaecologist, 44; Professor Norman Stone, modern historian, 54; Mr Robert Tear, tenor, 56; *Mr John Ward, MP*, 70; Mr David Wilkie, swimmer, 41.

PERSONAL COLUMN

BMD'S: 0171 782 7272
PRIVATE: 0171 481 4000

TRADE: 0171 481 1982
FAX: 0171 481 9313

There I gave my statutes to them and taught them my laws; it is by keeping them that mortals have life. Ezekiel 20 : 11 (REB).

BIRTHS

BLUNT - On 26th February 1995 at The Portland Hospital, Patsy and Laurence would like to announce the birth of their gorgeous son, Patrick Alexander Blunt.

BOWDEN - Claire and Ian are delighted to announce the birth of their son, George Arthur, a brother for Harry and Annabel, on 26th February 1995 in Windsor.

COLLIER-BARR - On February 17th in Nassau, Bahamas, to Richard and Elizabeth, the joyous gift of a son, Harrison David, a brother for Macey Catherine.

COLLIER-WRIGHT - To Richard and Andrea, a son, Marcus Robert, on 2nd March 1995.

COOPER - Thomas and Catherine (née Mooney) are delighted to announce the birth of their daughter, Laura Indigo, on Saturday 4th March 1995 in Glasgow.

COOPER - On 24th February, to Michael and Susan, a daughter, Francesca Lydia, a sister for Sasha.

CULLIMORE - On March 6th 1995, to Anne (née de Bellissen-Durban) and John, a daughter, Claire, a sister for William.

DONALD - On 3rd March, to Emma and Charles, a son, Jake.

FISHER - On 7th March, at Mount Elizabeth Hospital, Singapore, to Sarah (née Zorab) and Stephen, a son, Guy Edward, a brother for Alice.

LYNCH - Born February 27th at The Portland Hospital, a daughter, Olivia Michelle, to Timothy and Tracy.

MANN - On 2nd March, to Sally and Andrew, a daughter, Alice Josephine, a sister for Sophie.

MATTHEWS - On February 27th, to Susan (née Wright) and Robert, a son, Thomas James.

MEREDITH - To Samantha (née Pamplin) and Philip, a son, Henry Charles Oliver, born Friday 3rd March.

PAGE DONALDSON-PAGE - Adorable Alexandra Donaldson Page checked into St Thomas' Hospital at 8:32am 7th March 1995 weighing 5lbs 13oz. Elated Anne and Alfred thank Prof. K. Nicolaides and the absolutely marvellous staff at King's College Hospital and Mr A. Kenney and the wonderful team at St Thomas'.

PALMER - On March 6th at The Portland Hospital, to Fiona (née Larkin) and David, a gorgeous son, Ryan Christopher.

BIRTHS

PEASNELL - On 4th March at Edgware Hospital, to Nicola (née Hunt) and Robert, a son, Angus Robert Beric, 6lbs 13oz.

WOODBRIDGE - On 6th March, to Karen and Roger, a daughter, Phoebe, a sister for Lucy Amanda.

WOOLTON - On 3rd March, to Simon and Sophie, a daughter, Claudia Louise, a sister to Olivia and Constance.

DEATHS

AMBROSE - Barbara Anne (née Jackman), peacefully at home in Surbiton on 6th March 1995, aged 75. Beloved wife, mother and grandmother. Funeral at Tolworth United Reformed Church on Monday 13th March at 2 pm. Donations to Princess Alice Hospice, Esher, KT10 8NA.

ASKEW - Peter William, suddenly on 2nd March 1995, late of Melbourne, Oxfordshire and West Sussex. Cremation on 14th March 11.30 am Chichester. No flowers. Greatly missed by all who knew him.

BAKER - Geoffrey Vivian, beloved husband of Rosemary, adored brother of Doreen and Monica, peacefully on March 4th. Funeral Service Monday March 13th 2.30 pm at Christ Church, Fulmodestone, Fakenham, Norfolk. Family flowers only but donations, if desired, for The Big C Appeal at the service or c/o Fakenham & District Funeral Services, Market Hill, Colkirk, Fakenham, Norfolk NR21 7NU, tel: (01328) 851915.

BAKER - Grace died suddenly, in Ridgeway Nursing Home, Redhill, on 4th March 1995. Funeral Service on Thursday 16th March at West Herts Crematorium, Garston at 11.15 am. Family flowers only. Donations, if desired, to The Abbeyfield Society. All enquiries to C.A. Nethercoat & Son *Ltd.*, tel: (01923) 852699.

BAIRNAN On 3rd March, unexpectedly but peacefully following a fall, Eileen, aged 87, daughter of George Crabbe of Ceylon, widow of Richard, dearly loved and devoted mother of Valerie, grandmother of Jennifer and Sarah, dear Aunt of Jeanne. Funeral at St Peter & St Paul, West Clandon, on Monday 13th March at 1.30 pm. Spring flowers or donations to ARC. Enquiries to A & W Goddard, Fleet tel: (01252) 616431.

DEATHS

BAZZARD - On 6th March peacefully after a short illness. Barbara Georgina Bazzard aged 72. The very dearly loved wife of Jack, beloved mother of Jane, John and David and adored Grandmother. Thanksgiving Service at St Mildred's Church, Tenterden, on Saturday 11th March at 2.30pm. Private cremation. Family flowers, donations if desired to Pilgrims Hospice, Canterbury, c/o T.W. Fuggle & Son, Funeral Directors, Ashford Road, Tenterden, Kent.

BENNETT - Clive, died March 1st 1995. Funeral 12 noon on Monday 13th March, Kings Norton Church, Birmingham.

BOWATER - Margaret Vivian, widow of Sir Eric Vansittart, peacefully on 4th March after a serious illness courageously borne. Funeral Service on Monday 13th March at 2 pm at Holy Trinity Brompton, London, SW7, followed by private burial service at St Mary's, West Horsley. No flowers please, but donations to St Mary's Special Trustees - C.C.U. St Mary's Hospital, Praed Street, London, W2 1NY.

BROMHEAD - Freda Jean of Worcester Court, Clifton, Bristol, died peacefully at St Peter's Hospice, aged 91. Funeral 12 noon 10th March *1995* at Canford Crematorium, Bristol. Flowers to Co-operative Funeral Service, Church Road, Redfield, Bristol or donations to The English PEN Centre, 7 Dilke Street, London SW3 4JE. A Memorial Service will be arranged, details from Adrian Wright, 89 Queen Charlotte Street, Bristol BS1 4HL.

CAPEL - On March 5th Rowena "Bunty", wife of the late Major Arthur Capel and mother of Arthur and Armine. Funeral Service at Sherborne Abbey, Tuesday March 14th at 11 am. No flowers, but donations, if desired, to the Joseph Weld Hospice, Dorchester.

CHITTY - On March 4th, peacefully at home, Alma, daughter of Major General Sir Walter Ogilvie, mother of Jean and Peter, grandmother and great grandmother. Funeral at 2.30 pm on Wednesday March 15th at Boldre Church. Family flowers. Donations if desired for B.H.F. may be sent c/o F.W. House and Sons, 33/34 St Thomas' Street, Lymington, Hampshire.

DEATHS

CHARLTON - Pamela Mary of Grange Road, Biddulph, Stoke on Trent on 6th March 1995 aged 70 years at Royal Hospital, Chesterfield, Derbyshire "worn out by the fatigue of illness but courageous to the last". dearly beloved wife of Jack Charlton, mother of Jeremy and Julie, grandmother of Alex, Tom, Sophie and Katie. Funeral Service at St Mary's Church, Astbury, near Congleton, Cheshire at 2 pm on Friday 10th March 1995 followed by cremation at Macclesfield Crematorium at 3 pm. After the services those present may repair to the Talbot Inn, Grange Road, Biddulph, Stoke on Trent. Family flowers only. Donations in lieu to the Bursar of Haywood Rheumatism Research and Development Foundation at Haywood Hospital, High Lane, Burslem, Stoke on Trent in appreciation of the work of Mr T.E. Hothersall F.R.C.P. and his team. Funeral Directors, John Garside & Son, High Street, Biddulph, Stoke on Trent tel: (01782) 513210.

CRADDOCK - On March 7th, Josephine, widow of General Sir Richard, much loved mother, grandmother and great-grandmother. Cremation 10.30 am Friday, Guildford Crematorium. Family flowers only. Donations if desired to Injured Jockeys' Fund.

CRAIG - Frank, husband of Mary, father of Anthony, Mark and Nicholas, peacefully at home on 5th March, after a long heroic struggle with cancer. Funeral at St Francis de Sales Church, Wash Common, Newbury, at 12 noon on Monday 13th March. No floral tributes, but a donation to The Newbury and District Cancer Care Trust, Sandleford Hospital, Newtown Road, Newbury, would be appreciated.

DAVIS - Elizabeth, of Woodstock, on March 6th 1995, aged 87. Beloved wife of the late Bernard, and dearly loved mother, grandmother, and great-grandmother. Cremation private. Service of Thanksgiving for her life, Woodstock Parish Church, on Saturday March 11th at 11 am. All friends welcome. If desired, donations in her memory to Save the Children, c/o 5 Lloscombe Place, Carterton, Oxon.

DEATHS

EASTEN - On March 5th, peacefully after a short illness. Rev. Edmund John Alfred M.A., of Reepham, formerly of Thurning, Norfolk, aged 87 years. Brother of Gutherie. Private cremation. Funeral Service at Thurning Church on Wednesday March 15th at 1.15 pm. Enquiries to Dacketts Funeral Services, White Hart Street, Aylsham, tel: (0263) 733176.

EVANS - On March 5th 1995, Barbara aged 84, Wife of the late Phillip, mother of Nick, Jon, Charles and Caroline. Funeral Service at West London Crematorium at 11.30 am on Monday March 13th. All flowers to Crematorium please.

FRASER - *Hugh Ronald*, on March 4th 1995 suddenly passed away in his sleep at home in Dorset, aged 67 years. Very close brother of Stuart and Michael and much loved by all his nephews, nieces and Godchildren. he has left a sudden void and will be deeply missed by family and his many friends at home and overseas. Private funeral. Memorial Service on Wednesday 22nd March at 2.30 pm at Sopley Church, followed by interment of ashes. All enquiries to Miller Brothers and F.P. Butler Ltd. Funeral Directors, 119 Bargates, Christchurch, Dorset. tel: (0202) 484639.

FROST - On Sunday 5th March 1995, peacefully at Lugwardine Court, Hereford. Richard Aylmer Frost OBE in his 90th year. Dearly loved husband of Alice (Tam) and father of Alex, Robert, Francis and Kate, much loved grandfather and Friend. Funeral at Weobley Parish Church, Herefordshire, on Tuesday 14th March at 12 noon.

HACKNEY - Margaret (Peggy) much loved wife of Alan, mother of Elaine, Michael, Jane, John, Guy and Annabel: peacefully after a stroke, in the company of her family, on March 3rd 1995. Funeral for Service and Interment at St Lawrence Church, Bovingdon, Hertfordshire, on Friday March 10th at 11.30 am. Family flowers only, but donations in memory of Peggy for Oxfam, and Amnesty International, or St Francis Hospice, Berkhamsted may be sent to: Malcolm Jones and Metcalfe, Funeral Directors, 284 High Street, Berkhamsted, Herts. HP4 1AH. tel: (01442) 864848.

DEATHS

HALES - Jane M.B.E., youngest daughter of Dr. Robert Hales of Holt, peacefully at home 4th March 1995, aged 91. Funeral St Andrew's Church, Holt, Norfolk, 11.15am on Saturday 11th March. Flowers to house on Thursday. Donations for Holt Red Cross, towards a hoist for bathing elderly people c/o Lloyd Durham Funeral Services, 11A Avenue Road, High Kelling, Holt NR25 6RD, please.

HAXTON - On March 5th at home in Glasgow, Andrew Fernie F.I.C.E., in his 92nd year, widower of Norah Lucy (née Rice), father of Sheila and the late Susan, husband of Elizabeth (née Muir Campbell) and stepfather of Scott Moore and Tom Moore. Most dearly loved by us all.

HUNT COOKE - The Reverend Dr. Alfred, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., Brighton but peacefully at Hill Homes, Highgate on Saturday 4th March 1995 aged 86 years, beloved by the parishioners of Hendon St. Mary for his lifetime's care of them both physically and spiritually. A Requiem Mass will be held at the Parish Church of Hendon St. Mary, Church End, Hendon on Tuesday, 14th March at 12 noon, followed by a private cremation at Hendon Crematorium, Holders Hill Road, Hendon at 1.30 pm. Flowers may be sent to Leverton & Sons Ltd., 39, Brent Street, Hendon, NW4 to arrive by 3 pm Monday 13th March; donations, if preferred, may be sent to Barnardo's, Tanners Lane, Barkingside, Ilford, IG6 1QG. Father Alfred's body will be received into the Church at 5.30 pm on Monday 13th March, before the Mass at 5.45 pm, to which all who cannot attend the funeral will be welcome.

JENNINGS - On 6th March 1995 aged 97; peacefully at home, Raymond Winter M.C., Q.C., husband of the late Sheila, much loved father, grandfather, great-grandfather, brother and father-in-law. Service (family and local friends) at All Saints Church, The Drive, Hove, at 2.30 pm Monday 13th March, followed by private cremation. Family flowers only but donations if desired to St Michael's Church, Hackleton, c/o Hannington, Funeral Directors, 4 Montefiore Road, Hove. A Memorial Service will be held at St Michael's Church, Micklebam, nr. Dorking, Surrey, at 2.30 pm on Friday 24th March.

DEATHS

JONES - Elfion (Jonah) CMG, OBE, suddenly on March 6th in Llanelli. The beloved husband of Kathleen. Funeral Saturday March 11th. Service at Swansea Crematorium 11 am. No flowers please, donations in lieu if desired, to Cancer Research c/o Lloyds Bank, Stepney Street, Llanelli, Dyfed. Enquiries to Malcolm J. Wilcox & Son (0554) 775120.

KEMP - On March 6th 1995, suddenly in Newark General Hospital, Roger Faulkner of Collingham, Newark, aged 64 years. The much loved husband of Daphne and father of Gavin, Robin and Marianne. Funeral at South Collingham Church on *Friday March 10th at 12* noon. Family flowers only. Any donations please to The British Heart Foundation c/o David Tingle, Funeral Director, 18 Oaklands, Collingham, Newark NG23 7RG.

KOPPEL - *Pat. At* home on March 6th. Aged 81. Beloved husband of Jessica and father of Lamorna, Susan and Anthony. A funeral service will be held at St Peter's, Goodworth Clatford, Andover, Hants., at 11 am on Monday March 13th. Family flowers only. Donations, if desired to the Matron, North London Nuffield Hospital, Uplands Park Road, Enfield, Middlesex, EN2 7PR.

LEACH - On 3rd March 1995, Walter John (Jack)

OBITUARIES

VIVIAN STANSHALL

Vivian Stanshall, pop singer and comedian, was found dead in his burnt-out London flat on March 5 aged 52. He was born on March 21, 1942.



ALTHOUGH the apogee of Vivian Stanshall's career as a rock musician was the mid-1960s when he led the group Bonzo Dog Doo-Dah Band, he was to appear to audiences in many different guises in the decades that followed. True, there were long lacunae in his performance record as he battled — often in isolation — against drink, drugs and the severe depressions that periodically undermined his volatile spirit and rendered him unfit for any form of coherent activity. But he always seemed capable of summoning up the will to enable him to bounce back.

Thus, after the demise of the Bonzo Dog Doo-Dah Band in 1970 he had reincarnations as, variously, comic, disc-jockey, radio playwright, broadcaster, film actor and promoter of Ruddles ales on TV. And at the time of his death he was about to start recording a new album for his own label WEA.

The surreal, anarchic, satirical and often frankly lunatic style and content of the Bonzos' material made them natural performers on the college circuit which was becoming an important audience for rock bands in the mid-Sixties, thereby extending the frontiers of the "pop" kingdom, and making its performers more eclectic in their outlook and more adventurous in their approach to sound production. The hosepipe solo in the hit song *I'm the Urban Spaceman* (1968) was a characteristic Bonzo touch. Stanshall himself had a considerable knowledge of the English comic tradition and was always able to look backwards and absorb appropriate influences as well as thinking ahead, when considering changes in the content of the Bonzos' stage acts.

Brought up in London, Vivian Stanshall went to sea with the Merchant Navy where the awesome drinking habits of his later life were nurtured. Coming back onshore he went to the Central School of Art, London. There, with students from a number of other colleges, he formed the Bonzos who began life, like so many others, on the pub circuit and graduated to clubs and cabaret. Their style was initially somewhat in the mould of Twenties revivalist bands such as the Temperance Seven and the New Vaudeville Band. But they soon learnt to widen their range and by the time of the issue of their first album, *Gorilla* (1967), could be heard in typically inventive Bonzo style with numbers such as Stanshall's own *The Intro and the Outro*.

The single *I'm the Urban Spaceman* gave the group a Top Ten hit in 1968 and they made several more successful albums, including *The Doughnut in Granny's Greenhouse* (1968) and *Tadpoles* (1969).

Of the group's eight or so members, Stanshall (vocals and trumpet) and Neil Innes (vocals and piano) were perhaps the most significant creators of material, Stanshall leavening Innes's rock and psychedelic orientation with his cullings from prewar popular musical traditions. The stage shows eventually evolved into crazy explosions of music, movement, scattergun satire and thumbing the nose at icons — all carried off with an almost childlike noisiness.

In the end, the effort of getting up new routines to go with each performance proved a strain on the band's material and mental resources, and in 1970 its members parted. Radio, however, provided Stanshall with a second career almost immediately. With the encouragement of the DJ John Peel and his Radio 1 producer John Walters, Stanshall developed the idea of the eccentric English aristocrat Sir Henry Rawlinson who was later to achieve a full flowering in the 1980 film *Sir Henry at Rawlinson End*.

Sketches and narrations by Stanshall involving Sir Henry were a great success and when John Peel took a holiday break from his weekly show *Top Gear* Walters asked Stanshall to stand in as presenter. It was an inspired choice and the mixture of sketches, skits, spoof advertisements and ficitious police reports with which Stanshall proceeded to bamboozle his audience were a great hit. His collaborator in many of these hoaxes was his close friend Keith Moon, drummer of The Who who died after a party in 1978.

Even after John Peel's return to his show Stanshall continued to contribute to *Top Gear* and his Sir Henry Rawlinson items later formed the basis of a record album *Sir Henry at Rawlinson End*, which in turn spawned the film. With a comic lineage ranging from the Ealing Studios to Monty Python, with dollops of the Goons and the Alberts in between, this had a mixed reception, seeming to fall some way short of its cult classic pretensions. Nevertheless its distinguished cast, including Trevor Howard in the title role, Patrick Magee (always Samuel Beckett's favourite actor) and Stanshall himself delivering an eerie sing-song voice-over, ensured it was never less than totally zany. The Sir Henry philosophy, "If I had all the money I'd spent on drink I'd spend it all on drink", set the tone of the entertainment.

In the meantime Stanshall had done the narration for Mike Oldfield's *Tubular Bells* (1973) and made a few singles of increasingly manic tendencies. Huge, destructive drinking bouts with John Lennon and Keith Moon (neither of whom survived the decade) did nothing for his health and mental composure. He also became addicted to tranqillisers and after the filming of *Sir Henry* he retired to a boat on the Thames at Chertsey. There, for several years, he lived reclusively in the grip of depressions and anxiety states so profound that he was unable to do any more than the bare minimum to keep himself alive and ticking over.

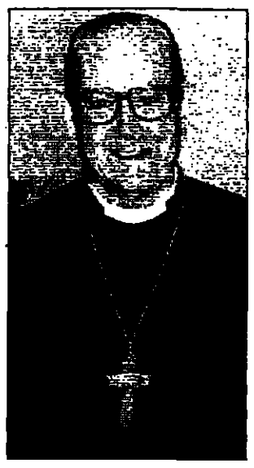
Yet there was to be an at least momentary resurgence after Stanshall was persuaded by friends to wean himself off tranquillisers at a clinic near Weston-super-Mare. Returning to London, he took a flat in Muswell Hill where he dwelt among reproductions of Henri Rousseau pictures, trumpets, cassettes, stringed instruments, volumes of 17th-century lyric poetry, a speaking clock and his father's dentures.

There he re-established control of his much-abused faculties. He created a musical *Stinkfoot*, worked for a Pills Anonymous group, did further episodes of *Sir Henry* for radio and made TV commercials for Ruddles ales — commercials which showed almost terminal drunkenness on the screen without, miraculously, drawing so much as a whimper of protest. To the end, his gifts were much admired by the current generation of stage and television comics.

Stanshall was twice married and had a son, but was living alone when he died.

THE RT REV NICHOLAS ALLENBY

The Rt Rev Nicholas Allenby, Bishop of Kuching, 1962-68, died on February 28 aged 86. He was born on January 28, 1909.



THOSE who knew Nicholas Allenby only in his latter years as a retired assistant bishop in the diocese of Worcester knew merely the half. The other half was a life lived actively and energetically in the Society of the Sacred Mission at Liverpool, at Kelham in Nottinghamshire, in Australia as Provincial and finally as Bishop of Kuching in Borneo from 1962 to 1968.

David Howard Nicholas Allenby was a distant relative of General Allenby who relieved Jerusalem in 1917. At the age of 19 he joined the then numerous and influential Society of the Sacred Mission, becoming a novice in 1930 and beginning his vocational training at the SSM Theological College at Kelham. The SSM at that stage still owed much to the style and character of its founder, Father Kelly, a man determined to bring sanctified common sense and Catholic élan to the Church of England.

Ordained in 1934, Allenby served his title at St Jude's, West Derby, Liverpool and then returned to Kelham in 1936 to assist with the training of ordinands. He taught New Testament and is particularly remembered for his lectures on the Acts of the Apostles. At this time he became Cottage Master and looked after the boys who came to Kelham for their education after the fashion of the medieval religious houses.

Kelham is in the diocese of Southwell — and Southwell became Allenby's home diocese. As rector of Kelham with Averham he became chaplain to Bishop F. R. Barry, whose scholarship and episcopate he much admired. He organised his rectory for private retreats and, as an increasingly influential figure, became a proctor in convocation for the diocese, rural dean of Newark for two years and Pro-Provincial of the English province of SSM. At this time he wrote his book, *Pray with the Church*, a title which accurately reflected his own way of life.

In 1957 Allenby was appointed Provincial of the Australian province of SSM, a post to which he brought much needed stability and common sense. In the same year he received a Lambeth MA from the hands of the then Archbishop, Geoffrey Fisher, of whose strength of character and geniality he often spoke. As a non-graduate, he was especially touched by this honour.

From Australia he moved in 1962 to Borneo as Bishop of Kuching, where he spent six years. During this time he helped the diocese to become self-supporting and prepared the way for the appointment of a Dayak bishop. This coincided with the disappearance of colonial rule and the emergence of the independent Federation of Malaysia. Allenby was tireless in the care of his clergy, travelling many miles by boat — khaki drill shorts, pith helmet and all. His prime concern was for better living conditions for indigenous clergy; he was also a builder and the diocesan centre in Kuching was completed during his episcopate, a true spiritual power house in the region. He also founded an effective diocesan educational fund.

In 1968 all that was left behind and he settled in Malvern in the diocese of Worcester to become assistant bishop to his old friend Mervyn Charles-Edwards (formerly vicar of St Martin-in-the-Fields) whom he had known from his Southwell days. He was also appointed by Charles-Edwards to be the diocesan director of ordinands — a post for which his early experience at Kelham had well qualified him.

As he moved towards retirement, the former dynamism, which had not always made him easy to work under, began to abate. He rejoiced in the confirmations in the Worcestershire villages which he was able to do for his diocesan, he became a confessor and spiritual director to many clergy, and was latterly a highly regarded Master of St Oswald's, an almshouse foundation in Worcester.

This penultimate phase behind him, Allenby lived in the parish of St Stephen, Worcester, where many parishioners had reason to be grateful for his disciplined participation in the life of the parish, never looking for any form of special acknowledgement and always setting an example of humility and self-effacement. He welcomed visitors to his house and liked to talk of books and cats — and sometimes of his own travels.

He is survived by a brother and a sister.

TONY SECUNDA

Tony Secunda, pop music manager, died from a heart attack in Tiburon, California, on February 10 aged 54. He was born in London on August 24, 1940.

TONY SECUNDA played Svengali to an impressive stable of pop artists in the 1960s — the Move, Procol Harum and the Moody Blues among them — and was one of the most skilful manipulators of the media among rock promoters of his generation. He was a maverick, much given to intellectual pronouncements on youth culture or the beneficial properties of marijuana, and some found him sinister — "like Olivier's portayal of Richard III and not only in appearance", as one recalled. He went to great lengths to introduce his protégés to the world with some startling piece of publicity.

As with many of his ideas, he occasionally took things too far. The Move, for example, lost a substantial amount in royalties after Secunda had the idea of marketing their *Flowers in the Rain* single (1967) with a postcard featuring a naked caricature of the then Prime Minister, Harold Wilson. Wilson sued the band successfully.

Secunda effectively retired from the business in the mid-1970s, though he might have made a successful comeback had he not lost interest in one of his later discoveries, the Pretenders, just before their crucial break in 1978. His business partner for many years, the less extrovert record producer Denny Cordell, remained more of a force in the American music industry and recently had a success with a new band, the Cranberries. But Secunda declined the opportunity to break into the harsher climate of pop management in the 1980s. He was, however, one of those managers who really shaped the direction of popular music in this country during the 1960s.

Anthony Michael Secunda was the son of a Russian émigré who had resettled from New York in London. After a Roman Catholic boarding school, he joined the Merchant Navy where his heavy drinking landed him in jails in Panama, Cyprus and Aden. He resurfaced in America where he was drawn into the music scene, returned to London and began to book gigs in youth clubs.

His first real success came



with the Birmingham-based Moody Blues, a band which was looking for its first hit and which found it with a cover version of Bess Banks's *Go Now*, topping the British charts in 1965. Despite the song also making the American Top Ten, the band's fortunes then declined temporarily amid much internal bickering.

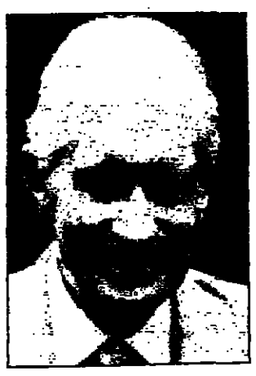
Secunda left and found another Birmingham band in search of an identity, the Move. This he supplied by peppering up their stage act with acts of "auto-destruction", then already made fashionable by The Who. Members of the Move energetically smashed their way through a series of television sets and cars on stage. After the débâcle over the *Flowers in the Rain* single, however, they decided to part company with Secunda.

Secunda had, by this time, found what looked like an arguably even hotter property to handle, Procol Harum. Within eight weeks of being formed in 1967, this band had made their debut with *A Whiter Shade of Pale*, complete with a Bach-inspired melody and the most surreal lyrics: "We skipped the light fandango, turned cartwheels across the floor, I was feeling kind of seasick, the crowd cried out for more". A year later, though, Procol Harum was beginning to look dangerously like a one-hit wonder, and again Secunda left surrounded by some acrimony, though considerably wealthier from the experience.

He followed this up by negotiating a new deal for Marc Bolan in the early 1970s, and managed Steeleye Span, the English folk-rock group. By 1976 the punk movement, led by the Sex Pistols, was burgeoning under the equally astute management of Malcolm McLaren and Secunda was anxious to find the right sort of new punk band. He found a suitable vehicle in the Pretenders but left them before they had their big breaks with *Stop Your Sobbing* and *Brass in Pocket* in the late 1970s. In the early 1980s he briefly managed Marianne Faithful.

He lived, latterly, in California, increasingly concerned with ecological issues, and had his own literary agency. He continued to be involved in record promotion, but he left deal-making to younger men. He is survived by his wife Franki and by three sons from a previous marriage.

ROWLAND OWEN



Rowland Owen, CMG, Deputy Controller, HM Stationery Office, 1959-64, and Comptroller, Export Credit Guarantee Department, 1953-58, died on January 25 aged 91. He was born on June 3, 1903.

ROWLAND OWEN had the dual satisfaction of a long and successful career in the senior ranks of the Civil Service, followed by another one of 30 years duration in church music, choral conducting and organ playing.

The brother of Edwin Owen, who served as Bishop of Limerick and Killaloe, 1976-81, Rowland Hubert Owen was born and brought up in the shadow of Armagh Cathedral. Both brothers graduated at Trinity College, Dublin, and in 1926 Rowland entered the Department of Overseas Trade, becoming private secretary to the Comptroller-General in 1930. During the next year he acted as secretary to the Gorell Committee on Art and Industry, then in 1934 took the Imperial Defence College course.

It was from 1936, however, that his career took its significant shape with a long period of overseas service. In that year he became commerical secretary at the Residency in Cairo; then, after joining the Ministry of Economic Warfare in 1939, he was appointed its representative in the Middle East in 1942 and the following year served as director of Anglo-American Economic Warfare Agencies at Allied Forces Headquarters, Mediterranean.

His transfer to the Board of Trade in 1944 led to another overseas posting, as Senior UK Trade Commissioner in India, Burma and Ceylon; then in 1946 he became Economic Adviser to the UK High Commissioner in India, and the following year was Adviser to the UK Delegation at the International Trade Conference in Geneva. In recognition of his services he was appointed CMG in 1948.

Rowland Owen's final appointments were as Comptroller-General, Export Credit Guarantee Department, 1953-58, and Deputy Controller, Her Majesty's Stationery Office, from 1959 until his retirement in 1964.

He had always had a fine singing voice, and in retirement cultivated his musical interests, taking up organ playing, choir training and composition. He became organist and choirmaster successively at four churches in Hampshire and Surrey — St Mary's, Bramshott, 1964-70; St John the Evangelist, Farncombe, 1970-75; St Luke's, Grayshott, 1975-87; and, finally, Holy Trinity, Bramley, until his retirement from there in June last year. He was president of the Surrey Organists' Association in 1976 and its honorary secretary, 1977-83.

Rowland Owen was an articulate writer of learned papers, a skilled gardener and a cook of Cordon Bleu standard. He and his wife were genial and generous hosts at their charming home in Haslemere.

His first wife, Kathleen Margaret Evaline Scott, whom he married in 1930, died in 1965 and in the following year he married Shelagh Myrle Nicholson, who survives him. There were no children of either marriage.

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ON THIS DAY

March 8 1922

Lord Northcliffe, proprietor of The Times *1908-22, anticipated present day press moguls in price cutting. Declaring it the "greatest leap in the history of Printing House Square" he slashed the price of the paper from 3d to 1½d. Aided by the promotion of free insurance, circulation rose 50 per cent in one month to 156,441.*

The Times.

GREAT RESPONSE TO 1½d. OFFER.

MANY WOMEN AMONG NEW READERS.

The readers of *The Times* are increasing more rapidly than at any time in its history excepting at periods of great national crises such as war.

The reduction in price from threepence to three halfpence to those who perform the simple operation of registering, has been received with marked public approval.

Typical of hundreds of letters is the following from a woman reader:—"Together with the enclosed form I wish to add my tribute of appreciation of this fresh proof of *The Times* generosity. Its broad, wise, statesmanlike outlook had long since won my admiration and respect, and I rejoice to think that its influence will be even more far-reaching now that it is within the range of a larger public."

The number of new women readers is quite a feature of the registrations. Popular approval has also been extended in a wide measure to *The Times* new Insurance offer. Hitherto it had been confined to insuring regular readers against personal injuries through accidents to private motorcars. The scope has now been greatly widened to provide compensation in the case of death and personal injuries through accidents to trains, taxicabs, omnibuses, tramcars, motor coaches, and certain passenger steamers. The benefits range from the payment of £1,000 to the legal representative of the case of a fatal accident to £4 a week pension in the event of total permanent disablement . . .

The reduction in price from threepence to three halfpence calls to mind previous changes in the price of *The Times* which were as follows:-

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Throughout all these changes of price there has never been any variation in the quality of the news services of *The Times*. The foreign service is, without exception, the most costly and comprehensive in the world. It will be found shortly that Lord Northcliffe's tour has provided *The Times* with many new Correspondents in places in which, hitherto, no journal has ever been directly represented.

The rest of *The Times* remains exactly as it is with its complete legal, Parliamentary, financial, social and sporting reports.

Chartered Association of Certified Accountants' December examination

The following were successful finalists in the Chartered Association of Certified Accountants' December 1994 examination.

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Classic FM's impressive ratings could be emulated by Radio 3 if it exploited its brand name and made overtures to foreign clients

A classic duet of British success

The next generation of radios is supposed to be ready next year (DAB, if you insist: digital audio broadcasting). But I really shouldn't wait that long to dump my car radio with its manual dial. I cannot go on driving through London traffic with one hand on the wheel and the other blindly shifting between Radio 3 and Classic FM.

I save Radio 4 for long journeys. Not only because then I can pay attention to sustained speech but also because Radio 4 goes out on the blessed long wave, which stays with you the length and breadth of the land. For the stop-start road experience of the inner city, however, I prefer classical music. Obviously the sensible solution would be simply to pick Radio 3 or Classic FM and stick with it.

But neither one will do on its own. I tend to start out with Radio 3. But the minute the world premiere is announced of a newly commissioned work for eight saxophones and a synthesizer, I'm off like a shot. Classic FM then seems like home, a place of refuge for those of us who, if we never heard any music written later than *Siegfried's Rhine Journey*, would not even notice, let alone mind.

Yet before long I feel I'm drowning in treacle. Or misinformation. (I swear I heard on Classic FM last week the fourth movement of Beethoven's Fifth identified as the second. I *know* I heard ITN's Ian Glover-James introduced as reporting from Singapore when his subsequent news item revealed him in Frankfurt.) And so back I go to the Reithian side.

Classic FM, all the same, is the success story of national commercial radio. Two and a half years old, the station pulls in 4.7 million listeners a week — twice as many as Radio 3. Matured, with a foreign pronunciation unit, it now equips its presenters with phonetic spelling guides. Henry Kelly can get his tongue around *L'Après-Midi d'un faune* as smoothly as if it were *Tales from the Vienna Woods*.

Classic FM's main achievement lies in its unashamed appeal to the uninitiated. It will provide the name of any piece of music played on the air if listeners ring up and say when they heard it. And for those starting a collection its new magazine, *Classic FM*, recommends Beethoven's Fifth: the one that begins "da-da-da-dah".

How very different from Radio 3, which recognises the serious listener as one who buys more than one version of the same piece of music and who is willing to weigh 30 different performances of Sibelius's Second Symphony before settling on von Karajan and the Berlin Philharmonic because



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"nothing is over-stated, there is an abundant sense of atmosphere and the temptaton to build up excessive climaxes is held in check".

Radio 3 is a success story too. In the face of competition, it has held its audience fairly steady over the past year at 2.5 million a week. Moreover, it has survived the cost-conscious and yoof-oriented BBC management, which continues to allow Radio 3 to absorb nearly a quarter of the £233 million budget for BBC network radio to reach only 1.5 per cent of the listening population.

But why should a country that can happily support a Classic FM need such a costly, public-broadcasting counterpart? The answer to the free-marketeers ought to be that Radio 3 is utterly different — that its commitment to live performances and new works is an unparalleled contribution to national culture. The argument, however, would be easier to make if the two stations were not starting, like an elder and a younger brother, to imitate each other without admitting it.

Radio 3 has tried to popularise its accents and choice of music. At rush hour particularly — a Marche Militaire here and a Trout Quintet there — its fare is scarcely distinguishable from Classic FM's. And some of its non-musical subjects are as doggedly downmarket as anything elsewhere anywhere on the BBC: "insights" into popular songs such as *Over the Rainbow* and *Zip a-Dee-Doo-Dah*, and exploration of British culture including its foods like bubble and squeak and lardy cake.

Meanwhile, over at Classic FM, they are venturing so deep into serious speech that, not content with having taken over *Gardener's Question Time* from Radio 4, they now discuss the fall of Barings or the future of drama so thoroughly that fair stretches of airtime have no music at all. And each station is doing its very best this year to make us all sick of Purcell and Tippett.

Where these two very British approaches to classical music could collide is abroad. Classic FM plans to franchise its format to stations across the United States: it has recently won licences for stations in Sweden, Holland, and Finland where, to the chagrin of some at the BBC, one of its news-suppliers is the BBC World Service.

But Classic FM's new magazine will not easily catch up with the BBC's *Music Monthly*. The BBC's magazine has become the world's most successful classical music magazine. It has 200,000 subscribers for its American edition alone, selling worldwide because of the BBC's "brand name".

The way ahead for Radio 3 is thus clear. Let it too put itself into the hands of BBC Worldwide and franchise its successful recipe abroad. In the fragmenting world of radio, high seriousness commands a niche market. And the brand name could hardly be better, unless perhaps it were to go back to calling itself the Third Programme.

Don't let a good story get away

Alexandra Frean reports on a new series of topical dramas which blur the lines between fact and fiction

Banking on the fact that truth can sometimes be stranger than fiction, and at times a lot funnier, the BBC is to produce a series of topical films based on real-life events as part of an ambitious attempt to revitalise its drama output.

Unlike conventional documentary-dramas, the films will be produced and screened in record time: within two months of the events depicted in them actually taking place, and while they are still fresh in the public's memory.

The first in the occasional dramas, a comedy called *A Very Open Prison*, will be screened on March 26. It tells the story of a beleaguered Home Secretary, played by Tom Wilkinson, facing a series of crises in the prison service, which he is attempting to privatise. A serial killer commits suicide in his cell and three maximum security inmates, one of them a psychotic killer, escape from a flagship jail.

The fugitive prisoners hole up in an orphanage, taking the children hostage. They also capture a visiting Tory MP, who is desperately needed in the Commons where the Government is facing a vote of no-confidence on Europe.

Although some of the plot is pure fiction, nobody could argue after the recent escapes from Whitemoor and Parkhurst prisons, Fred West's suicide in jail and the ongoing Commons rumpus about Europe, that most of the events depicted in the story are far-fetched.

It is this topicality that attracted David Thompson, an executive producer at the BBC, to the project. "This is refreshing. We want to revive the tradition of television as a medium that responds to what is going on," he says. "Writers of programmes such as *That Was The Week That Was* showed what you can do when you are working rapidly and firing on all cylinders. That has carried on with some of today's comedy shows, but it has largely disappeared from television drama."



Real-life search for escaped prisoners at Parkhurst is mirrored by . . .

. . . Peter Wingfield and Tom Wilkinson in *A Very Open Prison*

Mr Thompson, who hopes to produce around four topical dramas a year for the BBC, concedes that rushing through such projects at break-neck speed is a high-risk strategy. "You can only do it if you have a writer capable of turning out a sharp script in only a few days. We had confidence that our writer, Guy Jenkins, could do it because of his experience in writing for the Channel 4 comedy, *Drop the Dead Donkey*," he says.

> 'We want television to be a medium that responds to what is going on'

The trickiest obstacle facing the project was persuading the BBC to telescope its normal commissioning process, which frequently takes up to two years, into a few days. Unusually, Mr Thompson met little resistance from the corporation — not least, one suspects, because, at a cost of £500,000, *A Very Open Prison* has been considerably cheaper to make than the average BBC2 single drama.

He is now so fired with the concept that he is thinking forward to future projects. Other recent long-running news stories which would have made good television, he says, are the Tories' "Back to Basics" campaign and the Barings bank collapse.

In the midst of all this enthusiasm, however, Mr Jenkins, who completed the script for the hour-long film in five days, admits that the genre raises serious moral and legal questions. How, for example, will Fred West's children react to the portrayal of the prison suicide in *A Very Open Prison*?

"The action takes place in a parallel universe and shows the folly of politicians and of human behaviour," Mr Jenkins says. "None of the characters are supposed to be impersonating real people. The Home Secretary does not speak in Michael Howard's voice." To prove the point, he has confused real-life identities by giving the politicians in the piece criminals' names, such as Hanratty, Turpin and Fawkes.

He concedes, however, that there are some real-life events, such as the murder of James Bulger, which he would never touch because they are too sensitive.

"There is no philosophy or code behind it," he says. "You just have to use your instincts and think very hard about what you are doing beforehand."

But mixing the comic and the serious is part of television's role as a medium of entertainment and information, he says. "Television can lose its edge when it takes itself too seriously. Equally, some of the best television comedy, going right back to programmes like *Steptoe*, has an underlying seriousness."

The idea for producing instant drama came to the BBC from Geoffrey Perkins of Hat Trick, the independent production company best known for *Drop the Dead Donkey* and *Have I Got News for You?* He believes that topical pieces, such as *A Very Open Prison*, will add an extra frisson to the public's enjoyment because they will recognise and respond to the events and characters depicted.

"It works as a drama in its own right, but there are a lot of references in it that people will enjoy picking up," he says.

Casting the production at a week's notice was easy, Mr Perkins says, because if the actors were not working already they could start filming straight away: there was no interference to long-term plans.

Finding the locations, research and film editing have been harder work as all the different aspects of production have to happen in parallel. Most of the scenes set in Downing Street and the prison are being shot in Hanworth Park House in Feltham, west London, and Mr Perkins managed to persuade the governor of Oxford Prison to let him film there.

The classless media myth

Roy Greenslade asks how jobs in media could be made more accessible

Media is a buzz word with youth. Countless thousands of the nation's youngest and finest now vie every year to break into newspapers and the ever-expanding fields of television and radio. Competition is fierce, but a supposedly glamorous career in media is so sought-after that there is a never-ending supply of recruits.

A university education has long been a requirement to break into television. And most national broadsheets have always arranged some kind of fast-track entry route for graduates. But regional and local newspapers now routinely demand university qualifications too.

Four universities — City of London, Cardiff, Preston and Strathclyde — offer post-graduate courses in practical journalism which virtually guarantee their students jobs. There is also a good chance that students from the London College of Printing (LCP) will get into the industry after their three-year journalism degree course.

Unsurprisingly, applications for all these courses are therefore heavily oversubscribed. LCP estimates that only one in ten of those who apply get in. At City, there are more than 1,000 hopefuls every year for just 30 places. Preston and Cardiff report similar figures.

But this apparently rosy situation for newspapers, in which the best are selected and groomed — without any cost to employers — is now under attack.

The problem, according to both academics and Britain's regional editors, is that the intake is too well-heeled. "It's too middle-class and too white to serve a diverse community," argues Professor Brian Winston, director of Cardiff's Centre for Journalism Studies.

His centre has just carried out a survey for the Guild of Editors which revealed that 68 per cent of journalism trainees on regional and local papers were graduates and two-thirds described themselves as middle-class.

The problem is that, with the removal of discretionary grants and the squeeze on local authority funding, a journalism student is expected to find at least £6,000 for the year.

According to Professor Peter Cole, of the University of Central Lancashire in Preston, these students must be prepared to live with mounting debt or rely on rich parents. "That problem is compounded by the low starting salaries on regional papers," he says. "Young journalists cannot earn enough in the early years to pay off loans. The system favours plummy accents from the Home Counties."

The National Council for the Training of Journalists (NCTJ), the industry's own scheme, tells a similar story. Chief executive Rob Selwood says the 400 students who train at NCTJ-accredited colleges every year face funding problems. He says: "It means no black faces."

This is confirmed by Dr Beulah Ainley, who has carried out a study into the lack of blacks and Asians in the media. Though she contends that racism is a major factor, most journalism academics believe economics is the root cause.

One dissenting voice is Wynford Hicks, head of City University's burgeoning journalism course. He argues that the collapse of traditional English teaching in schools has contributed to the failure of working-class youth and ethnic groups to obtain training and jobs.

Editors complain that even the trainees they do appoint, from whatever background, lack basic English skills. But their main concern remains the failure to attract a more diverse group of recruits and they blame a lack of student funding.

On the other hand, British students are more fortunate than most of their European counterparts, where there is no tradition of grants. As one academic asked without a hint of sarcasm: "Have you ever met a working-class French journalist?"

Golden oldies are still tops

VIEWERS of Channel 4 and BBC2 might occasionally think they have been caught in a time warp, *Alexandra Frean writes*. At least six of the programmes in this week's ratings chart, which focuses on the two channels, are classic repeats from the Sixties and Seventies.

The trick for those scheduling programmes is to find archive material that not only appeals to those older viewers who may harbour a deep-felt nostalgia for a golden television age of the past, but also to draw in the younger teenage generation who may never have seen these gems before.

Steptoe and Son, written by Alan Simpson and Ray Galton and starring Wilfrid Brambell as the grubby and quarrelsome Albert and Harry H. Corbett as his restless son Harold, was one of the comedy highlights of the Sixties and beats all the other oldies in our chart.

The honours for new programmes go to Channel 4's Cutting Edge documentary on February 13 about motor accidents. Entitled, "A" is for *Accident*, the programme not only out-performed BBC2, but also beat the *Nine O'Clock News* on BBC1.

The first episode of *Hearts and Minds*, Channel 4's new relentlessly bleak schoolroom drama written by Jimmy McGovern, attracted a respectable 3.8 million viewers.

THE TIMES TV TOP 20: BBC2 v CHANNEL 4

February 13 to 19, 1995

	Programme	Date	Time	Channel	Producer	Genre	Aud (m) All 4+
1	Cutting Edge:"A" Is for accident	Mon 13	21:01	CHA4	Uden Associates	Documentary	7.2
2	The X-files	Thu 16	21:03	BBC2	20th Century Fox	Drama Series	6.5
3	Top Gear	Thu 16	20:33	BBC2	BBC Pebble Mill	Lifestyle	6.5
4	Blue Steel (1990)	Sun 19	22:03	CHA4	Lightening Pictures	Film	5.9
5	Geoff Hamilton's Cottage Gardens	Fri 17	20:31	BBC2	Catalyst Television	Lifestyle	5.5
6	Bare Essentials	Wed 15	21:01	BBC2	Republic Pictures Int	Film	5.5
7	Food and Drink	Tue 14	20:30	BBC2	Bazal Productions	Lifestyle	5.4
8	Brookside	Tue 14	20:30	CHA4	Brookside Productions	Soap	5.2
9	Countdown	Tue 14	16:31	CHA4	Yorkshire Television	Game Show	4.5
10	Steptoe and Son	Fri 17	21:01	BBC2	BBC	Sit-com	4.4
11	Star Trek: The Next Generation	Wed 15	17:59	BBC2	Paramount Picture Corp	Drama Series	4.2
12	Sykes	Tue 14	21:01	BBC2	BBC	Sit-com	4.2
13	Natural World: Monkey in the Mirror	Sun 19	18:10	BBC2	BBC Bristol	Documentary	4.0
14	Roseanne	Fri 17	22:01	CHA4	The Carsey-Werner Co	Sit-com	4.0
15	Hearts and Minds	Thu 16	22:04	CHA4	Witzend Productions	Drama serial	3.8
16	Rising Damp	Fri 17	21:30	CHA4	Yorkshire Television	Sit-com	3.4
17	Randall and Hopkirk (deceased)	Fri 17	18:25	BBC2	ITC Entertainment (UK)	Drama Series	3.4
18	The World at War	Wed 15	19:31	BBC2	Thames Television	Documentary	3.3
19	Only When I Laugh	Mon 13	20:29	CHA4	Yorkshire Television	Sit-com	3.3
20	Don't Forget Your Toothbrush	Sat 18	21:01	CHA4	Ginger Television Prod	Entertainments	3.1

BARB (Broadcasters' Audience Research Board)/David Graham & Associates 01823-322829
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Amazing rediscovery: the phone

The humble telephone is back as a top marketing tool

Forget the information superhighway. The really hot interactive medium that is sweeping marketing is far more mundane and humble. The old-fashioned telephone, having shaken up insurance and banking, is breaking boundaries.

Last week, Richard Branson launched Virgin Direct. Like other direct operations, it offers a double marketing bonus of lower costs and more convenience. Last weekend, while most competitors were shut, Virgin Direct was open from 8am to 10pm.

Phone-based businesses such as Virgin Direct, Direct Line and First Direct are just the tip of a growing phone-marketing iceberg. Computer companies are running huge helpline operations to aid customers when their machines go wrong. Flora, Persil and other packaged-goods companies have 0800 customer-care lines and more and more businesses are using telesales operators to replace expensive sales people, or to organise appointments. Some mail-order catalogues do more than 90 per cent of their business by phone. And one in five packaged holidays are now booked direct with the tour operator, bypassing the travel agent.

New, entirely phone-based operations are emerging, from share and cricket-score information lines to telephone car auctions and outfits such as the London-based Local Heroes, which uses high-tech call-routing technology to enable consumers to use only one freephone line to contact pizza shops, funeral parlours and other local services. The number of 0800 and 0345 calls last year reached 540 million, and BT will this month introduce the 0897 premium line which, for £1.50 a minute, will offer services such as legal advice and faxed sheet music.

All this, says Howard Sandom, BT's marketing manager for telemarketing, is part of an emerging phone culture. He says the phone recently overtook face-to-face meetings and letters as the main means of doing business. He predicts that over the next five years, telemarketing will soar from a £200-million-a-year business to £2 billion.

Yet Britain still has a long way to go. Its systems are not as advanced as those in America. And marketers are finding it difficult to manage the way in which telemarketing is blurring the boundaries between previously separate operations such as market research, customer service, order-taking, selling and distribution.



Richard Branson and a card for his new brainchild

Worse, they are realising with a tinge of horror that carefully cultivated "brand personalities" now need to be brought alive through the words and tone of voice of their telephone operators.

How far will the telemarketing revolution go? Some industry experts contend that logistical obstacles will limit phone-ordering to high-value items such as computers and furniture, or services like travel and insurance. But as consumer demand for convenience grows, that may change.

Colin Lloyd, chief executive of the Direct Marketing Association, says: "The telephone will be the supermarket car-park of tomorrow. You won't need to park your car; you will have only to put your fingers on the button. The shop will come to you."

The biggest breakthrough would be grocery home shopping. Most recent experiments have failed. But Food Ferry, which delivers the weekly grocery shop to about 1,500 Londoners' doors, is, says Jonathan Hartnell-Beavis, its director, growing at 40 per cent a year.

More could be on the way. As Bob Tyrrell, the Henley Centre's chief executive, told a media conference last week, "Don't tell me logistics won't allow it. You can be just about anywhere in the northwestern part of the hemisphere and you will be half an hour away from a pizza. If they can do it with pizzas, why not elsewhere? Why can't I phone at 10pm and say . . . I want ten cans of dog food — now?"

ALAN MITCHELL

NEWS

Ministers 'misled investors'

■ The Government was plunged into embarrassment over its latest privatisation last night as ministers were accused of misleading a million private investors who bought shares in PowerGen and National Power.

The charges were levelled after ministers admitted they had been aware when the state sold its remaining stake in the electricity generating industries that the industry's regulator was considering tough price controls **Pages 1, 9, 25**

Clarke blow to part-time directors

■ As Richard Giordano, chairman of British Gas, admitted that legislation may be necessary to cap salaries of privatised company senior executives, Kenneth Clarke told part-time directors of all listed companies that the right to share options will not be extended to them..... **Pages 1, 2, 19, 25, 27, 29**

Nationalised jails

The Labour Party pledged to end the privatisation of the Prison Service and return private jails to the public sector..... **Page 2**

Exclusion orders

Michael Howard is to lift up to 14 exclusion orders banning people from Northern Ireland and elsewhere from entering Britain after security advice that they are no longer a threat..... **Page 2**

Twins out of love

A liaison of nearly 40 years between Yorkshire and the Pyrenees is dying from lack of interest. To put it bluntly, the citizens of Ripon and Foix have never really hit it off..... **Pages 3, 19**

Claes support

American officials reaffirmed their confidence in Willy Claes as Secretary-General of Nato, but refused to discuss his alleged role in a bribery scandal during his former career in the Belgian Cabinet..... **Page 10**

Leeson charge

Nick Leeson practised the signature of one of the most powerful men in Wall Street before forging his name, the Frankfurt public prosecutor said..... **Page 5**

Militant killed

Gunmen killed the leader of a militant Shia Muslim organisation in Lahore, intensifying a war of terror against Pakistan's religious minorities..... **Page 15**

Families angry

Families who were involved in allegations of the ritual or sexual abuse of their children are incensed that the BBC plans to screen a drama inspired by their experiences..... **Pages 6, 23**

Strike settled

German unions and employers agreed a wage increase of just under 4 per cent, avoiding a strike that could have crippled the economy..... **Page 14**

Remagen memories

German and US flags were paraded in front of the remains of the Remagen Bridge which 50 years ago saw a dramatic battle for the Rhine..... **Pages 14, 19**

Veterans' disgust

British veterans expressed disgust at President Clinton's decision to ban the term VJ Day — Victory over Japan — from US commemorations marking the 50th anniversary of the end of the Second World War..... **Pages 7, 19**

Women's move

The breakdown of marriage was linked to women's emancipation and the rising number of young men regarded as not worth marrying, the Archbishop of York said..... **Page 8**

Mandela divorce

President Mandela of South Africa and his wife, Winnie, are most likely to divorce, their daughter Zinzi said..... **Page 11**

US couple win £62m lottery jackpot

■ Don Pence was a house painter and his wife Shirley an insurance company secretary. But not any more. Mrs Pence telephoned her boss in Phoenix, Arizona, to tell him she had received a better offer: a jackpot of $101.8 million (£62.5 million). She and her husband were winners in the Powerball lottery..... **Page 10**



Dame Judi Dench, left, Daniel Day-Lewis and James Fox arrive for Julian Belfrage's memorial service at St James's Piccadilly Page 20

BUSINESS

Currency turmoil: Turbulence on the currency markets has forced the European Union's monetary committee to cancel a meeting today at which it planned to discuss technical details of a single European currency..... **Page 25**

Barclays: Barclays Bank accompanied a 181 per cent profits surge, to £1.86 billion, last year after provisions for bad debts fell sharply with news that it had started an examination of its management controls in the wake of the Barings Bank collapse..... **Page 25**

Markets: Currency jitters saw the FT-SE 100 lose 24.9 points, to 2,977.0. Sterling's index slid from 87.7 to 86.5 as the pound fell from $1.6412 to $1.6242 and from DM2.3021 to DM2.2604..... **Page 28**

SPORT

Football: George Graham, the former Arsenal manager, was charged with misconduct by the Football Association. He was given 21 days to respond..... **Page 48**

Cricket: Salim Malik and Intikhab Alam were dismissed as captain and manager of the Pakistan team after an inquiry in Lahore into bribe allegations..... **Page 48**

Rugby Union: Steve Lander and Ed Morrison have been nominated as the English referees to officiate at the World Cup in South Africa this summer..... **Page 46**

Athletics: Crystal Palace may cease to be a leading venue if a consultative document published by the British federation is transformed into action..... **Page 42**

ARTS

Best seats in the world: Who are the world-beaters in music, theatre, film, opera, dance and pop? Times critics choose the city that would give them the most pleasurable nights out..... **Page 37**

Brontës step out: Northern Ballet Theatre has premiered a dance-drama based on the Brontës, devised by Gillian Lynne..... **Page 39**

Canadian adventure: Trevor Pinnock, the Baroque-music pioneer, has ventured into contemporary music with the NAC Orchestra from Canada with which he tours Britain..... **Page 38**

Rattigan revived: Terence Rattigan's lament for English reserve, In Praise of Love, has been revived with Peter Bowles..... **Page 39**

FEATURES

Religious cults: Whether it is flying-saucer worship or "prosperity theology", Eileen Barker has studied them all. Joanna Pitman meets the professor..... **Page 16**

Faith in the future: The more we become aware of the dangers of limitless freedom, the more we will search for moral rather than mere technical guidance, says Dr Jonathan Sacks..... **Page 16**

FASHION

Milan shows: With its nod to the glitter of Hollywood and its continuing love affair with sheer luxury, fashion is looking good, says Iain R. Webb..... **Page 17**

THE PAPERS

No doubt everyone has something to learn from the United Nations "social summit" in Copenhagen. But there are not many mysteries about what it takes to get ahead in the world. An educated and healthy citizenry, the rule of law and respect for human rights are civilising forces.

The Washington Post

The disastrous slide of Mexico's peso is contributing to the decline of the dollar, just as the devaluation of the Spanish peseta is unsettling the European Monetary System. A dangerous epidemic of instability has broken out worldwide, in which each currency's weaknesses are affecting the others.

The Washington Post

LISTINGS

Preview: In the bastion of private medicine a facelift costs £4,500 and an unproven cancer treatment £60,000. *Modern Times: Harley Street* (BBC2, 8.30pm). **Review:** Lynne Truss follows Clive James and Jonathan Meades in pursuit of the uneatable..... **Page 47**

OPINION

Sid and Cedric

Ministers may remain at one remove, but in the case of these utilities they will never distance themselves far enough to escape political damage..... **Page 19**

An honest anniversary

The fact that Japan was defeated in a just war is inescapable; the defeat cannot be buried in polite euphemism..... **Page 19**

Twin pique

When the affair takes root, urban happiness radiates across the Channel. But as Ripon found, cities, like people, can sometimes prove fickle..... **Page 19**

COLUMNS

SIMON JENKINS

The fact is you cannot denationalise a utility. You can sell its shares; you can introduce competition at the margin; you can abuse its directors. But politicians are ultimately responsible for the structure and performance of these services, whether the supply companies are private or public..... **Page 18**

BEN MACINTYRE

Affirmative action was intended to be a temporary remedy, a way to offer historically outcast groups a route to the top that would soon become obsolete. It has proved to be anything but..... **Page 18**

PETER RIDDELL

Forget Lords Weinstock, Hanson and King. The man who has done more than any of these titans to reshape British industry over the past decade is Professor Stephen Littlechild, the electricity regulator..... **Page 9**

OBITUARIES

Vivian Stanshall, pop singer and comedian; **The Right Rev Nicholas Allenby**, former Bishop of Kuching; **Tony Secunda**, music manager..... **Page 21**

LETTERS

Lessons of Barings collapse; closure of shelters for homeless; landmine controls..... **Page 19**



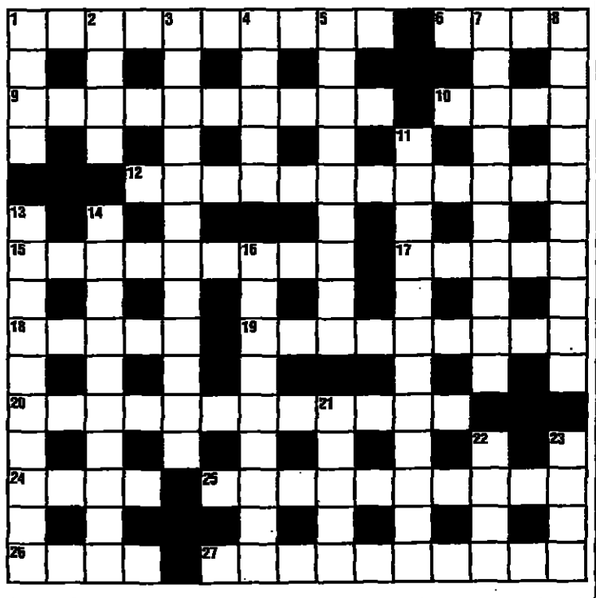
TOMORROW

IN THE TIMES

■ *VICIOUS CIRCLE*
Geoff Brown reviews Jennifer Jason Leigh in the film biography of Dorothy Parker

■ TRAVEL
A fresh look at the Spanish costas — and the ski prospects for spring

THE TIMES CROSSWORD NO 19,797



ACROSS

1 Court official takes periodical of the highest class (10)
6 Accustomed to being exploited (4)
9 "Some mute —— Milton here may rest" (Gray) (10)
10 Haircut for a big noise (4)
12 Very old nude in Latvia? Could be (12)
15 Osmosis can be intensely interesting (9)
17 Drink fit for a king's return (5)
18 Group of associated hotels in the mountains (5)
19 A merry occasion for Jack in the pantomime? (9)
20 Unease about Republican lies given backing in the anthem (12)
24 Student in gear that's worn by a Highlander (4)
25 Knight entering in regimentals in the dark (10)
26 Dance music makes us rock and sway (4)
27 In France, beautiful climatic conditions, say, for a sheep (4-6)

DOWN

1 A source of power for the breakers (4)
2 Soldiers holding midnight jazz sessions (4)
3 Green as Lorna, perhaps — a voguish young Londoner (6,6)
4 Hoist used in opera is electric (5)
5 Article about old city state in Germany (9)
7 It secures a document for South London district to expand (7-3)
8 Go downhill from Welsh mounts in time (10)
11 New pal's fault — a person to try it on (4,1,4,3)
13 He needs hands to help him produce turnips (10)
14 Eastern resort associated with sound material for footwear (10)
16 Lopsidedness of "ROAD UP" sign (9)
21 Record book abandoned by university (5)
22 A mother hired originally as nursemaid in the East (4)
23 Army party going up a European river (4)

Solution to Puzzle No 19,796

Q	U	A	N	D	A	R	I	E	S		N		B	
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	O		E		H		E	X	P	I	A	T	E	D
	A		S		I		G			R		G		
P	R	O	A		T	H	E	O	D	O	L	I	T	E
O		N		R		E		N		H				
W	I	L	D	C	A	T		E	P	I	S	O	D	E
E		O		V		S		U		O		A		
R	E	V	I	L	E	M	E	N	T		L	E	W	D
H		E		T		A		I						
C	O	L	O	G	I	S	T		T	H		G		
U		A		O		L	E	I	S	U	R	E	D	
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TIMES WEATHERCALL

For the latest region by region forecast, 24 hours a day, dial 0891 500 followed by the appropriate code:

Greater London	701
Kent,Surrey,Sussex	702
Dorset,Hants & IOW	703
Devon & Cornwall	704
Wilts,Glouce,Avon,Some	705
Berks,Bucks,Oxon	706
Beds,Herts & Essex	707
Norfolk,Suffolk,Cambs	708
West Mid & Sth Glam & Gwent	709
Shrops,Hereds & Worcs	710
Central Midlands	711
East Midlands	712
Lincs & Humberside	713
Dyfed & Powys	714
Gwynedd & Clwyd	715
N W England	716
W & S Yorks & Dales	717
N E England	718
Cumbria & Lake District	719
S W Scotland	720
W Central Scotland	721
Edin S Fife/Lothian & Borders	722
E Central Scotland	723
Grampian & E Highlands	724
N W Scotland	725
Caithness,Orkney & Shetland	726
N Ireland	727

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For the latest AA traffic/roadworks information, 24 hours a day, dial 0336 401 followed by the appropriate code:

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Area within M25	731
Essex/Herts/Beds/Bucks/Berks/Oxon	732
Kent/Surrey/Sussex/Hants	734
M25 London Orbital only	736
National traffic and roadworks	
National motorways	737
West Country	738
Wales	739
Midlands	740
East Anglia	741
North-west England	742
North-east England	743
Scotland	744
Northern Ireland	745

AA Roadwatch is charged at 39p per minute (cheap rate) and 49p per minute at all other times.

HIGHEST & LOWEST

Monday: Highest day temp: Guernsey, Channel Islands, 10C (50F); lowest day max: Loch Glascarnoch, Highland, 2C (36F); highest rainfall: Buxton, Derbyshire, 0.41in; highest sunshine: Ventnor, Isle of Wight, 9.9hrs.

FORECAST

☐ **General:** England and Wales will have a frosty start in the east with wintry showers spreading to the west. Scotland will have a mixture of sunshine and wintry showers. Northern Ireland will have bright spells and sleet or snow showers. It will be cold.

☐ **London, East Anglia, East Midlands, Eastern England, West Midlands:** heavy showers spreading east, sleet or snow in places. Moderate southerly winds veering westerly. Max 6C (43F).

☐ **Southeast England, Central Southern England:** bright spells and showers, heavy for a time. Moderate or fresh southerly winds veering westerly. Max 6C (43F).

☐ **Channel Isles, Southwest England, South Wales, North Wales, Northwest England:** heavy wintry showers which will be confined to the coasts later. Fresh westerly winds veering northwesterly. Max 7C (45F).

☐ **Lake District, Isle of Man, Central North, Southwest Scotland, Glasgow, Central Highlands, Argyll, Northwest Scotland:** bright spells and wintry showers. Light variable winds becoming northwest. Max 6C (43F).

☐ **Northeast England, Borders, Edinburgh & Dundee, Aberdeen, Moray Firth, Northeast Scotland:** sunny spells and scattered wintry showers. Winds light mainly southerly. Max 5C (41F).

☐ **Orkney, Shetland:** bright intervals and frequent wintry showers. Winds southerly moderate. Max 4C (39F).

☐ **Outlook:** becoming milder, with rain spreading to the west.

AROUND BRITAIN

24 hrs to 5 pm: b=bright; c=cloud; d=drizzle; ds=dust storm; du=dull; f=fair; fg=fog; g=gale; h=hail; r=rain; sh=shower; sl=sleet; sn=snow; s=sun; t=thunder

	Sun hrs	Rain in	C	F			Sun hrs	Rain in	C	F	
Aberdeen	7.4	0.20	5	41	sn	Liverpool	4.0	0.05	6	43	sn
Anglesey	6.8	0.01	7	45	h	London	6.8	0.05	8	46	h
Aspatria	*3.1*	*0.01*	*4*	*39*	*sl*	*Lowestoft*	*6.5*	*0.03*	*9*	*48*	*sh*
Aviemore	6.5	0.10	4	39	b	Manchester	3.1	0.15	5	41	h
Belfast	6.4	0.06	6	43	sn	Margate	6.5	0.05	8	46	sn
Birmingham	5.3	0.06	6	43	sn	Minehead	9.2	0.05	7	45	s
Bognor R	7.3	-	8	46	h	Morecambe	1.4	0.08	5	41	sn
Bournem'th	9.1	0.01	8	46	s	Newcastle	6.4	0.02	7	45	s
Bristol	X					Newquay	6.2	0.03	7	45	s
Buxton	3.3	0.41	3	37	sn	Norwich	7.8	0.08	7	45	sh
Cardiff	9.0	0.01	7	45	s	Nottingham	X				
Clacton	6.4	0.02	7	45	sl	Oxford	5.7	0.01	7	45	sh
Colwyn Bay	6.0	0.08	6	43	s	Penzance	8.6	0.04	10	50	h
Cromer	7.0	0.02	7	45	b	Plymouth	8.9	0.06	8	46	s
Doncaster	5.6	0.03	7	45	sh	Poole	8.0	0.02	8	46	s
Dunbar	X					Prestatyn	X	0.08	6	43	b
Eastbourne	5.8	-	8	46	b	Ross-o-wye	6.1	-	7	45	b
Edinburgh	7.1	-	6	43	b	Salcombe	9.6	0.11	10	50	s
Eskdalemuir	6.2	-	4	39	sn	Sandown	7.9	0.02	9	48	b
Exmouth	7.9	0.10	7	45	h	Saunton Snd	7.5	0.03	7	45	b
Falmouth	X	0.14	8	46	b	Scarboro'	8.7	0.10	6	43	s
Fishguard	7.8	-	5	41	b	Scilly Isles	X				
Folkestone	5.6	-	8	46	s	Shanklin	8.9	0.01	7	45	s
Glasgow	7.0	0.02	6	43	sn	Shrewsbury	5.8	0.08	6	43	h
Guernsey	7.7	0.09	10	50	s	Skegness	7.3	0.03	8	46	sh
Hastings	6.9	0.02	8	46	sl	Southend	7.8	0.11	7	45	b
Hayling I.	8.8	-	8	46	sn	Southport	4.2	0.07	5	41	sl
Herne Bay	6.3	0.07	8	46	h	Southsea	7.5	-	8	46	sn
Hove	X	-	8	46	b	Stornoway	5.7	0.04	5	41	s
Hunstanton	7.0	0.01	7	45	b	Swanage	8.7	0.04	8	46	s
Ilfracombe	X					Teignmouth	8.5	0.06	8	46	s
Isle of Man	4.9	0.06	6	43	h	Tenby	8.8	0.01	7	45	s
Jersey	6.2	0.31	9	48	h	Tiree	2.4	0.14	6	41	sh
Kinloss	7.1	0.06	6	43	b	Torquay	8.5	0.04	9	48	s
Leeds	5.8	-	6	43	sh	Tynemouth	X				
Lerwick	-	0.01	3	37	c	Ventnor	9.9	-	9	48	s
Lauchars	8.4	-	6	43	s	Weymouth	9.0	0.03	9	48	s
Littlehmptn	8.0	0.01	8	46	h						

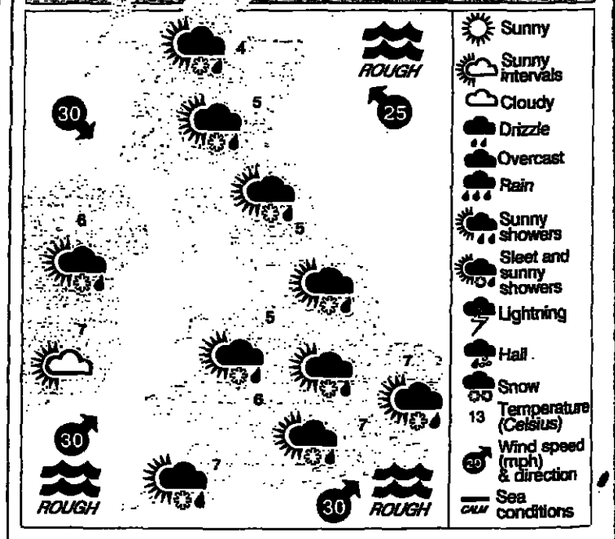
These are Monday's figures

ABROAD

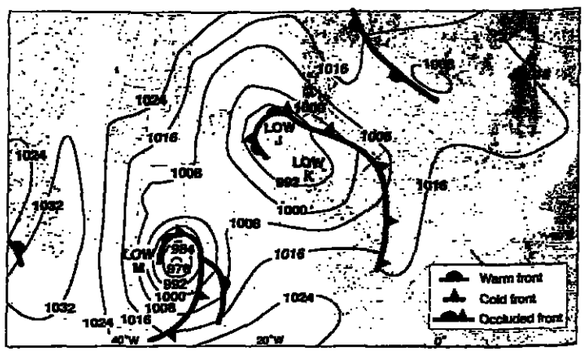
Ajaccio	12	54	f	C'phagn	5	41	f	Madrid	9	48	s
Akrotiri	17	63	s	Corfu	13	55	r	Majorca	14	57	f
Alex'dria	19	66	f	Dublin	3	37	s	Malaga	14	57	c
Algiers	15	59	c	Dubrovnik	7	45	c	Malta	15	59	s
Amst'dm	6	43	s	Faro	18	64	s	Mello'rne	31	88	s
Athens	14	57	f	Florence	13	55	f	Mexico C	21	70	f
Belfast	6	43	r	Frankfurt	9	48	s	Miami	28	79	c
Bangkok	34	93	s	Funchal	15	59	c	Milan	13	55	s
Barbados	29	84	s	Geneva	6	43	f	Montreal	-4	25	f
Barcelona	12	54	s	Gibraltar	14	57	c	Moscow	2	36	c
Beirut	18	64	f	Helsinki	1	34	c	Munich	4	39	f
Belgrade	10	50	f	Hong K	22	72	c	Nairobi	25	77	c
Berlin	6	43	r	Innsbruck	5	41	f	Naples	13	55	s
Bermuda	21	70	f	Istanbul	13	55	s	N Delhi	23	73	s
Biarritz	11	52	f	Jeddah	32	90	s	N York	11	52	c
Borde'x	7	45	f	Jo'burg	24	75	f	Nice	14	57	s
Brussels	7	45	s	Karachi	30	86	s	Oslo	2	36	sn
Budapst	7	45	c	L Palmas	20	68	f	Paris	8	46	f
B Aires	21	70	f	La Toust	9	48	f	Peking	18	64	s
Cairo	21	70	f	Lisbon	15	59	s	Perth	27	81	s
Cape Tn	32	90	s	Locarno	12	54	s	Prague	6	43	f
Chicago	1	34	c	L Angels	18	64	s	Reykjavik	-1	30	s
Ch'church	21	70	s	Luxembg	1	34	c	Rhodes	15	59	f
Cologne	6	43	f	Luxor	29	84	s	Rio de J	28	82	f
Riyadh	29	84	s								
Rome	12	54	f								
Salzburg	4	39	c								
S F'isco	12	54	s								
Santiago	26	79	s								
Seoul	13	55	s								
Sing'por	31	88	s								
St'kholm	5	41	c								
Strasb'rg	7	45	f								
Sydney	26	77	c								
Tangier	14	57	f								
Tel Aviv	18	64	f								
Tenerife	21	70	f								
Tokyo	12	54	f								
Toronto	1	34	c								
Tunis	14	57	f								
Valencia	15	59	s								
Venc'ver	1	34	c								
Venice	11	52	s								
Vienna	8	46	s								
Warsaw	8	46	f								
Wash'ton	12	54	f								
Wel'ngton	19	66	s								
Zurich	4	39	sn								

Temperatures at midday local time X = not available

TOMORROW



Changes to the chart below from noon: low J will move north and fill; low K will move into the North Sea and fill; low M will move northeast and fill



HIGH TIDES

TODAY	AM	HT	PM	HT	TODAY	AM	HT	PM	HT
London Bridge	5.31	6 55	5:57	6 48	Leith	6 34	4.62	7.01	4 50
Aberdeen	5.20	3.69	5 47	3.64	Liverpool	2 53	7 96	3 18	7 78
Avonmouth	10:57	11 10	11 09	10 87	Lowestoft	1.16	2.28	1 41	2 12
Belfast	3.08	3.20	3 33	3 08	Margate	3 34	4.30	4 04	4 10
Cardiff	10 47	10.09	10 58	10 05	Milford Haven	10:12	5 73	10 27	5 58
Devonport	9:24	4.67	9 46	4.62	Newquay	9.11	5 40	9 35	5 23
Dover	2.43	5 93	3 11	5 61	Oban	8:28	3.17	8:54	3.17
Dublin	3 37	3.58	4.07	3 47	Penzance	8:40	4 60	9 03	4 44
Falmouth	9:16	4.15	9 46	4 19	Portland	10.13	1 49	10.23	1 41
Glasgow	4:50	4.25	5.11	3 94	Portsmouth	3:05	4.25	3 29	4 05
Harwich	3:31	3 57	3.50	3 33	Shoreham	2:39	5 44	3 04	5 20
Holyhead	2:06	4.79	2:35	4 63	Southampton	2.32	4 10	2 57	3 98
Hull	10:07	6.39	10 30	6.20	Swansea	10 13	7 92	10:30	7 70
Ilfracombe	9.47	7 49	9 59	7.20	Tees	7 51	4 45	8 11	4 38
King's Lynn	10.22	5.29	10.45	5 09	Wilton-on-Naze	3.23	3.75	3 46	3 58

Crown copyright reserved All tide times are GMT

HOURS OF DARKNESS

Sun rises: 6.32 am
Sun sets: 5.52 pm
Moon sets 12.39 am
Moon rises 9.37 am

London 5.52 pm to 6.30 am
Bristol 6 02 pm to 6.39 am
Edinburgh 6 01 pm to 6 45 am
Manchester 5 59 pm to 6 39 am
Penzance 6.15 pm to 6 50 am

First quarter tomorrow

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ARTS 37-39

Lisa Harrow brings rare warmth to a revival of Rattigan



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Return of the ready to move into house



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Who gains most from cricket's benefit system?

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THE TIMES

BUSINESS EDITOR Lindsay Cook

WEDNESDAY MARCH 8 1995

Currency turmoil upsets EU plans

BY JANET BUSH, ECONOMICS CORRESPONDENT

GROWING turbulence on the world's currency markets yesterday forced the European Union's Monetary Committee to cancel a meeting called to discuss technical details on moving to a single currency.

The committee, which decided on devaluations for the peseta and the escudo after a marathon weekend session, felt that to hold a meeting today in the midst of currency turmoil would attract undue attention.

Although politicians have this week continued to argue that progress towards the single currency and monetary union remains intact, events in the currency markets appear to throw considerable doubt on the enterprise.

Yesterday, the dollar rout that has been threatening for days reached crisis point as the US currency slumped to another low, not just against the yen but also the mark. And as investment funds continued to flood into quality currencies such as the mark and the Swiss franc, several European currencies, including the pound, the franc, the peseta, the escudo and the Swedish crown, dropped to lows against the mark.

The peseta, which was devalued by 7 per cent, dropped more than half way down its permitted new range in the exchange-rate mechanism, making a nonsense of hopes last August that 15 per cent fluctuation bands would never be tested by Europe's currencies.

The Spanish currency was not helped by Pedro Solbes, Spain's Economy Minister, who said that he would have preferred a 12 per cent devaluation.

Sterling was battered, hitting a record low of DM2.2573. Eddie George, Governor of the Bank of England, said that the bank would be watching the movement of the pound to determine whether the move is "deep-seated" or "erratic".

Mr George meets Kenneth Clarke, the Chancellor, for their monthly monetary meeting today but few in the City expect a base rate rise to defend the pound so soon after base rates were raised last month.

The two men are likely to baulk at a rate rise on currency grounds, particularly now.

Firstly, the Barings crisis and worries about liquidity in the financial system militates against tighter money.

Secondly, sterling's problems are not isolated but part of a huge switch in funds from the dollar to the mark.

Thirdly, the British authorities, better than anyone, know that raising interest rates to defend a currency is often counterproductive.

One extra reason for sterling weakness yesterday was large scale selling of the pound against the yen by Barings as it sought to close out its loss-making positions in the Far East.

The dollar's apparently unstoppable decline prompted verbal support from US officials but no intervention from the US Federal Reserve.

Lawrence Summers, Treasury Under Secretary, said that a strong dollar was important to the national interest. He also sought to reassure investors that the Fed has the firepower to defend the dollar, if it wants, in spite of the recent $20 billion rescue package for Mexico.

The next source of worry for the Clinton Administration is that the dollar's weakness is beginning to feed through to asset prices.

On Wall Street, the Dow Jones Industrial Average had dropped 42.53 points to 3,955.03 by midday, with the market fearing that a weak dollar would cause a rise in interest rates.

The dollar slumped to Y91 and DM1.3720, both record lows.

CBI backed on EMU..... 26
Anthony Harris..... 29

Sharp drop in provisions brings in £1.86bn

Barclays profits soar 181%

BY PATRICIA TEHAN
BANKING CORRESPONDENT

BARCLAYS BANK started a widescale examination of its management controls last week after the collapse of Barings. Martin Taylor, chief executive, said: "The question we ask is could this happen here? We have come to the conclusion that it could not."

Barings collapsed after a trader in Singapore ran up huge losses. Since then it has emerged that Barings appears to have ignored warnings that the trader had too much power, with control of trading and settlement activities.

Andrew Buxton, chairman, said: "We have already started a serious review of our own controls to see what we can learn. I am not complacent. Although we believe our controls are good, we will always be investing in them."

He was unveiling a 181 per cent leap in Barclays' profits to £1.86 billion in 1994, after provisions for bad debts fell sharply by £1.27 billion to £602 million. The total dividend of 21p, up from 15.15p, was above the 19p expected by City analysts. The final payment, of 13p is due on May 16.

The bank's 70,845 staff will participate. They will receive 7.5 per cent of their salaries, up from 2.5 per cent last year, at a cost of £76 million to the bank.

Mr Taylor said the bank had been "trying to understand the cost of our lending better." It made gross new and specific provisions of £1.13 billion, the highest proportion being in UK banking.

While other banks are reducing general provisions, Barclays is trying "to remove some of the false volatility from our accounts." He said after attempting to grade each of its corporate loans, and grading consumer loans by sample based on its evaluation of past and current loss rates and analysing credit gradings, the bank had also made a £74 million general provision to cover possible future losses.

Barclays is also changing the mix of its assets, he said, and continuing to exit low-margin business. Profits from UK banking services contributed most to the profits recovery, up from £567 million to £1.2 billion, after a fall in bad debt provisions from £1.19 billion to £485 million.

Mr Taylor said loan demand had been weak, but picked up in the second half. Mortgages now comprise one fifth of loans to UK customers. Staff numbers fell by 2,000 to 53,800, as branch jobs were cut. Barclays Financial Services, its pensions and insurance arm, saw profits tumble from £213 million to £123 million, hit by problems in Barclays Life, where the sales force has been retrained. Barclays Life raised provisions for compensating customers for the mis-selling of pension transfers by £27 million to £58 million.

Corporate and Institutional Banking Services, set up last May to handle the needs of the bank's large corporate and institutional clients, raised pre-tax profits to £74 million from £46 million.

Mr Taylor said problems in France continue, and the bank would embark on a restructuring there. Losses in Barclays' European business fell from £150 million to £110 million.

Profits at BZW, Barclays' investment banking arm, crashed from £532 million to £242 million after a slump in dealing volumes in foreign-exchange, fixed-income and equities markets that sent dealing profits down from £625 million to £384 million. BZW's bad debt provisions fell from £63 million to £1 million. Fees and commissions rose from £430 million to £443 million.

Barclays' other international and private banking operations showed a £1 million profits rise to £175 million.

Tempus, page 28

JAMES MORGAN



Profit block: Protesters outside a Barclays Bank branch in London yesterday

Northern gives blessing to bid by Trafalgar

BY ERIC REGULY AND MARTIN WALLER

IN A dramatic reversal, Northern Electricity yesterday dropped its three-month defence campaign and recommended that shareholders accept Trafalgar House's £1.23 billion offer for company.

The announcement came after Professor Stephen Littlechild, Director-General of Electricity Supply, announced that new electricity price controls may be imposed after a price review, the second within a year.

A statement from Northern, after the market closed, said it had "reluctantly" decided it could no longer insist on a rejection. The cash element of the bid closes on Friday, and Northern was advising shareholders either to accept the cash, or consult their professional advisers on whether to sell in the market.

The Littlechild statement wiped almost a fifth off Northern's market capitalisation, the shares falling 158p to 879p.

Trafalgar is in talks with Professor Littlechild about regulatory undertakings that are required to allow its offer to progress. The company would only say that the cash offer had to be accepted by 1pm on Friday.

Also called into question is the future of the National Grid, the electricity transmission system owned by the 12 regional electricity companies. They had hoped to sell their stakes in the Grid by the summer and pass the proceeds, estimated at £4.5 billion, to their own shareholders.

Bryan Townsend, chairman of Midlands Electricity and a director of the Grid, said the sale of the Grid depended on whether Professor Littlechild's review results in tighter electricity price controls. If it does, and the controls are severe, the electricity companies simply may decide they cannot afford to sell the Grid. Mr Towsend said: "We may not be able to pass on the customer dividend."

John Wilson, an analyst at UBS Securities, said: "I can't see anyone buying into this industry when the regulatory regime is unsure."

Pennington, page 27

BUSINESS TODAY

STOCK MARKET INDICES

FT-SE 100	2977.0	(-24.9)
Yield	4.49%	
FT-SE A All shares	1470.41	(-15.05)
Nikkei	16955.28	(-85.44)
New York:		
Dow Jones	3955.03	(-42.53)*
S&P Composite	480.40	(-5.23)*

US MARKETS

Federal Funds	5⅝%*	(5⅞%)
Long Bond	99²⁷/₃₂*	(100¹³/₃₂)
Yield	7.64%*	(7.59%)

UK MARKETS

3-mth Interbank	6⁹/₁₆%	(6⁹/₁₆%)
Liffe long gilt future (Mar)	100²/₃₂	(101¹⁵/₁₆)

STERLING

New York:		
$	1.6440*	(1.6239)
London:		
$	1.6405	(1.6321)
DM	2.2572	(2.2825)
FFr	8.0700	(8.1000)
SFr	1.8799	(1.9107)
Yen	149.07	(151.07)
£ Index	86.5	(87.7)

DOLLAR

London:		
DM	1.3730*	(1.4042)
FFr	4.9470*	(4.9780)
SFr	1.1438*	(1.1744)
Yen	90.80*	(92.87)
$ Index	91.4	(91.7)

Tokyo close Yen 92.70

NORTH SEA OIL

Brent 15-day (May)	$16.75	($16.75)

GOLD

London close	$381.45	($378.75)

* denotes midday trading price

De La Rue shares plunge by 143p

BY MARTIN WALLER

A TRADING statement from De La Rue, the banknote printer that earlier this year bought Portals Group, the specialist paper maker, has sparked a big slide in the share price.

However, Jeremy Marshall, the chief executive, denied that the acquisition, at a price regarded in the City as extremely high, had gone sour. "This is nothing to do with Portals. It's not supposed to be a profits warning and we believe the market as it stands at the moment has overreacted," he said.

He was responding to a 143p slide in De La Rue's share price to 889p, after the company announced the intention to sell all the Portals businesses outside its security paper-making operations, which include the production of banknotes.

De La Rue also said trading continued in line with expectations, but the City could expect only "modest" growth in earnings in the 1995-96 financial year, the first full year after the acquisition.

Mr Marshall added: "Nothing has changed on the Portals front in the short time since we bought it. We're perfectly happy with what we have found now we're inside."

Sonia Falaschi, printing analyst at UBS, the broker, said: "The reason the shares have reacted to such a degree over a relatively minor profits update is that this is the first negative piece of news this management has given the City, and the timing is somewhat unfortunate."

Tempus, page 28

Wellcome capitulates to Glaxo's bid



Sir Richard: "pleased"

BY SARAH BAGNALL

WELLCOME'S management yesterday caved in to the £9 billion offer from Glaxo, the rival drugs group, after failing to find a white knight.

The Wellcome board reluctantly recommended that shareholders accept the offer after two potential bidders pulled out of negotiations. The recommendation clears the way for Glaxo's offer, which closes today and, if successful, will create the largest drugs company in the world.

The news lifted Glaxo's shares 19p to 667p while Wellcome's shares slipped 9p to £10.27 — compared with the offer price of £10.49 a share. Zeneca also benefited from the news, with its shares rising 14p to 878p, reflecting the market's relief that it was not launching a counter offer as rumoured.

Wellcome said that one potential white knight — which analysts believe was Zeneca — was prepared to top Glaxo's offer by about £500 million. But the offer depended on the Wellcome Trust, Wellcome's main shareholder, with 39.5 per cent of the equity, assuring that the offer had a good chance of being irrevocably accepted. Sources close to the deal said Zeneca was only prepared to make a higher offer if the trust agreed to a lock-out that would prevent Glaxo coming back with a higher offer.

Bernard Taylor, a director at Flemings, adviser to the trust, said: "We wanted to receive offers from white knights, but we received none."

However, Wellcome's advisers are believed to have produced to the trust a letter from an anonymous potential bidder. Wellcome asked the trust to apply for High Court permission for it to take steps to assure the counterbidder a good chance of success. The trust declined to do so on legal advice that that it risked breaching its agreement with Glaxo. The bidder then withdrew.

A second potential bidder — thought to be Roche — then pulled out on Sunday night.

John Robb, Wellcome's chairman and chief executive, said: "It is obviously disappointing that neither of the two remaining potential counter-bidders decided to make an offer."

The deal is expected to result in significant rationalisation, incurring job losses among Glaxo's worldwide workforce of 44,000 and Wellcome's of 17,500. Sir Richard Sykes, Glaxo's chief executive, said he was "very pleased" that Wellcome had decided to recommend the offer.

Pennington, page 27

Bondholders seek more for Barings

BY ROBERT MILLER

BONDHOLDERS of £100 million worth of Barings subordinated loan notes are mounting a last ditch bid to force ING, the new Dutch owner of Barings, to increase its offer of £5 million. ING is expected to complete the deal within the next 48 hours.

ABN Amro, which bid for parts of Barings, yesterday held a meeting with fund managers holding Barings's loan notes. Among institutions that invested in the notes are Scottish Amicable and Legal & General. Separately, a number of life offices holding Barings's preference shares are angry that under the ING deal they receive nothing.

There is also concern as to how smaller banks and building societies will raise much-needed finance in the capital markets after the fate of Barings's bondholders.

Patrick Whittingdale, chairman of Whittingdale, a firm which manages £1.5 billion of fixed-interest investments, says that yields on such bonds are bound to rise, "reflecting the greater risks involved".

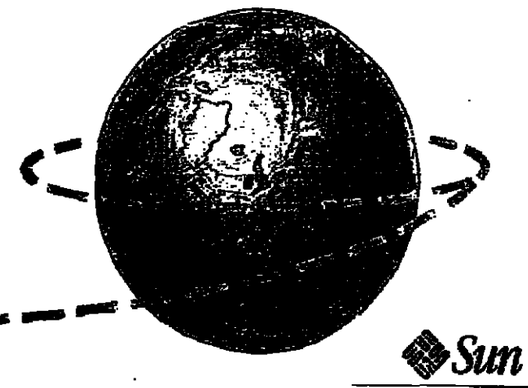
Hu interview, page 26

MORSE



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Chambers back CBI stance on EMU

BY PHILIP BASSETT, INDUSTRIAL EDITOR

LEADERS of Britain's chambers of commerce yesterday declared their support for the United Kingdom delaying any moves towards a single currency until economic circumstances are clearer.

The decision by the governing national council of the British Chambers of Commerce (BCC) gives further business support to mainstream government economic thinking and furthers the division among business leaders over the controversial issue of economic and monetary union (EMU).

The national council decided to support Britain keeping its options open on EMU but continuing to be fully involved in negotiations on the establishment of a single currency.

Robin Geldard, BCC President, said after the council's bi-monthly meeting: "Britain should keep itself at the heart of the discussions about whether we should have monetary union, and if so how." Chambers' leaders are broadly predisposed towards a single currency, with many small firms in particular believing that one currency would make international trade easier. However, BCC leaders acknowledged yesterday that the weekend's turmoil in the currency markets with the devaluation of the Spanish and Portuguese currencies had made some small businesses nervous about being caught within full EMU.

Chambers' leaders acknowledged privately that the decision placed the businesses they represented broadly in step with the attitude towards the single currency expressed by Eddie George, Governor of the Bank of England, and by both the Prime Minister and the Chancellor, and not in line with the sceptical attitude towards a European-wide currency associated with Conservative right-wingers.

The move also sees the chambers lining up with the Confederation of British Industry, which is also arguing that while no immediate decision over EMU should be taken yet, business is broadly in favour of a single currency when the conditions are right.

But the chambers' move leaves the free-market Institute of Directors (IoD) on its own among principal business organisations in arguing strongly against a single currency.

Tim Melville-Ross, IOD Director-General, said yesterday that a number of EU countries would be unable to join monetary union for several years, or perhaps decades. He added: "In my view, a single currency cannot be made to work in Europe in the foreseeable future."

Anthony Harris, page 29

TOURIST RATES

	Bank Buys	Bank Sells
Australia $	2.30	2.13
Austria Sch	17.03	15.53
Belgium Fr	49.94	45.64
Canada $	2.403	2.243
Cyprus CypE	0.768	0.708
Denmark Kr	9.80	9.00
Finland Mkk	7.59	6.94
France Fr	8.52	7.87
Germany Dm	2.48	2.22
Greece Dr	388.00	363.00
Hong Kong $	13.18	12.18
Ireland Pt	1.06	0.98
Israel	5.3277	4.5777
Italy Lira	2785.00	2630.00
Japan Yen	164.50	148.50
Malta	0.609	0.554
Netherlds Gld	2.705	2.475
Norway Kr	10.73	9.93
Portugal Esc	252.00	233.50
S Africa Rd	ret.	5.35
Spain Pta	215.00	202.00
Sweden Kr	12.37	11.57
Switzerland Fr	2.03	1.85
Turkey Lira	refer	65918.0
USA $	1.720	1.590

Rates for small denomination bank notes only as supplied by Barclays Bank PLC. Different rates apply to travellers' cheques. Rates as at close of trading yesterday.

JAMES MORGAN



Chris Scott, finance director, left, and Peter Redfern, Partco managing director

Partco hoists profits £2.3m

BY MARTIN BARROW

PARTCO GROUP, the distributor of automotive parts whose shares were floated on the stock market a year ago, increased taxable profits to £6.2 million in the 12 months to December 31 from £3.9 million previously.

Earnings were 16.6p a share, rising from 10.1p. There is a final divided of 4.2p, making a total of 6.2p for the year, compared with 5.4p last time.

Gordon Yardley, the chairman, said: "We have seen a period of strong organic growth since the group's flotation, in spite of an indifferent economic background and very competitive conditions in our market place." Turnover was up 9.8 per cent to £136.4 million from £124.3 million in the previous 12 months.

Woodhead RSR, a subsidiary, is acquiring Autotruck, the vehicle parts distribution business of GRT Bus Group, for about £800,000.

Singapore better regulated, says Hu

FROM NEIL BENNETT IN SINGAPORE

RICHARD HU, the Finance Minister of Singapore, has said that the Barings crash could not have happened to a Singaporean bank due to the greater efficiency of the country's regulators.

In an oblique criticism of the Bank of England, Dr Hu said that Singaporean regulators would have acted against the lack of internal controls in Barings that allowed Nick Leeson to run up the huge futures positions that caused the bank to crash.

He said: "Our regular inspections by the Monetary Authority of Singapore look at internal controls. Any difficulty is put down on paper and banks have to report back on them. If they do not, they are fined and disciplined. That is why we have a reputation for being over-regulated here."

Dr Hu said that Baring Futures had not been as tightly regulated as a bank in Singapore because it was a trading company rather than a bank with personal deposits and he questioned whether Mr Leeson would have been given a licence to operate on the Singapore International Monetary Exchange (Simex) under regulations being introduced, due to his record in Singapore for indecent exposure.

Dr Hu insisted that the failure of Barings has had no impact on Singapore's growing financial markets and welcomed the takeover.

"A loss of one billion is not small change, but it is not disastrous for the financial markets," he said.

Singapore authorities investigating the collapse of Barings are thought to be examining the so-called "Baring-gate tapes", which contain records of all Mr Leeson's deals and telephone calls for up to the past two years.

Videotapes made by Simex show Mr Leeson trading heavily in Japanese stock market futures. Tapes of telephone calls, made by Barings, are thought to have been seized by Price Waterhouse, the judicial managers for Baring Futures.

BUSINESS ROUNDUP

Britain sells Atomic services arm to US

THE Government has sold the Atomic Energy Authority services arm, which has 950 employees and contracts worth £60 million a year, to Procord, part of Johnson Controls of the US. The deal provides for Procord to take over provision of services ranging from light engineering to catering at six AEA sites in England and Scotland. The sites will remain the property of the Government, together with their estimated £3 billion to £5 billion of nuclear decommissioning liabilities.

However, much of the work carried out by Procord will be done for AEA Technology, which occupies the sites as a tenant, and which the government hopes to privatise in the spring of next year. The contracts, lasting from four to six years, will almost double the turnover of Procord in the UK. Procord was recommended from a shortlist of four bidders drawn up by Coopers & Lybrand, which advised the Government on the sale.

Hi-Tec executive goes

HI-TEC SPORTS has lost its finance director less than two weeks after the sports shoe group issued a profits warning. Peter Butler, who has been with the group for almost two years, has left to pursue a business venture in the sportswear sector and is currently looking for backing from venture capitalists. He will be succeeded by John Fallon, the former managing director of Sears's sports and leisurewear division. A Hi-Tec spokesman said Mr Butler's departure was totally unrelated to the group's recent trading statement.

CRH lifts dividend

CRH, the Dublin-based building materials group, expects more acquisitions this year after boosting pre-tax profits 52 per cent to Ir £116 million in 1994. CRH bought 18 businesses last year for Ir £159 million as part of its plan to spread to a wider market. New businesses brought in Ir £9.9 million at the operating level and Don Godson, chief executive, expects further investments in less developed countries. CRH operating profits jumped 26 per cent to Ir £121 million. There is a full-year 8.1p dividend, up 12 per cent.

Canadian Pizza sags

CANADIAN PIZZA expects profits to fall further due to the loss in 1994 of a major slice of business from J Sainsbury, its largest client, resulting in the loss of more than £3 million of sales and knocking over £1 million off profits. The loss has been partly offset by progress elsewhere. Pre-tax profits tumbled 27.8 per cent to £2.33 million in the year to December 31, as turnover fell 12.7 per cent to £15.6 million. Exports hit a record £5 million. There is a 3.6p final dividend making 6p (notional 5.9p).

Provision clips TI Group

PRE-TAX profits at Trade Indemnity Group, the credit management company, eased to £5 million last year, from £5.8 million in 1993, after an additional provision of £7.5 million against a policy written in 1990 for the Investors Compensation Scheme. The company said that no further provisions would be required. Although earnings fell to 2.2p (4.5p), the company is lifting the total dividend to 1p (0.5p), with a final of 0.6p, to be paid on July 1. The shares rose 4p to 70p. Net asset values fell 13.4 per cent to £56.1 million.

Polypipe advances

POLYPIPE, the manufacturer of plastic pipes and fittings, lifted pre-tax profits to £9.31 million from £7.45 million, an increase of 25 per cent, in the half year to December 31. Turnover advanced to £84.74 million from £60.8 million. With earnings improving to 3.98p a share, from 3.2p, the interim dividend is lifted to 0.81p, from 0.71p, to be paid on April 25. During the period, capital expenditure held steady at £7.67 million, compared with £7.69 million.

French buy for T&N

T&N, the auto components group due to report financial results for 1994 today, is to buy France's Sintertech, a subsidiary of Pechiney and Usinor Sacilor, for Fr250 million. The business is one of Europe's largest makers of powder metal components. Approval from the French authorities is expected within two months. Separately, T&N said it would file a new application to the German cartel office in its bid to buy Kolbenschmidt, the pistons maker.

Exports boom forecast for UK

BY JANET BUSH, ECONOMICS CORRESPONDENT

OVERSEAS demand for British products will remain strong enough to keep growth buoyant this year despite the impact of rising interest rates and taxes at home, says Oxford Economic Forecasting.

Exports are expected to be the main engine of growth, which should total 3.8 per cent in 1995, very similar to the growth rate seen in 1994 and higher than the Treasury's own forecast of 3.25 per cent.

Manufacturing production, which is expected to benefit particularly from overseas demand, is forecast to rise 5.2 per cent in 1995 compared with services growth of 2.6 per cent. Services depend more on domestic activity.

OEF expects exports to rise more than 10 per cent this year with investment rising 7 per cent. In contrast, consumer spending growth "is likely to be solid rather than stunning" at just above 2 per cent.

Output is expected to be particularly strong among capital goods manufacturers in the mechanical and electrical engineering sectors and in transport equipment. Other star performers are likely to include the chemicals and metals industries.

However, higher interest rates — and the fear of more rises to come — will mean that housing market activity remains depressed and the construction industry will be hampered by cuts in public spending after last year's Budget. Margins will remain squeezed in the services sector.

But manufacturers will be able to rebuild margins. OEF said there are growing signs that inflation has reached a turning point. Underlying inflation it said, is likely to continue to edge up, reaching 3.1 per cent in the fourth quarter of this year and 3.5 per cent in the second half of 1996.

With mortgage rates rising, headline inflation is set to breach the 4 per cent upper limit of the Government's target range in the second half of this year.

The group expects interest rates to rise further from the current 6.75 per cent to reach 7.75 per cent in the autumn.

ICL expects good year



ICL, the British-based computer business controlled by Fujitsu of Japan, expects an accelerating recovery in both sales and profits during 1995. The company, which employs 23,000 people, made £28 million before tax on 1994 sales of £2.66 billion, now appears to be hoping its long-delayed flotation could be achieved in 1997. Peter Bonfield, chairman and chief executive, left, said: "1995 should be a much better year for the financial fortunes of ICL."

De Beers expects brighter market

BY COLIN CAMPBELL, MINING CORRESPONDENT

DE BEERS, the international diamond group, estimates the worldwide retail diamond market rose by 4 per cent to $45 billion in 1994 and believes retail sales will grow by a further 2 to per cent in 1995.

De Beers said 1995 could be a good year for consumer sales, that economic indicators were strong, and that its marketing spending would be raised by $10 million to $185 million to back market trends.

However, Russian sales of rough and polished diamonds outside the terms of an exclusive sales agreement with De Beers continue to be of concern.

Gary Ralfe, a main board director, said that De Beers would not disagree with estimates that sales of Russian rough and polished diamonds last year exceeded $2 billion during a period when Russian production was only $1.2 billion.

Of the $2 billion estimate, more than half of Russian diamond sales would have been in breach of the sales agreement with De Beers' marketing division, the CSO.

De Beers said that it would not be constructive to sue. However, De Beers is "not happy with a situation which makes a mockery of CSO arrangements". Talks betwen the two continue. Bypassing the CSO, and selling rough and polished stones into Antwerp and New York has, De Beers said, undermined confidence in the diamond market.

Julian Ogilvie Thompson, the chairman of De Beers, yesterday announced 1994 net attributable earnings of $555 million for the year to December 31, compared with $595 million reported for 1993. At the equity accounted level, De Beers reports profits of $828 million ($873 million).

The total dividend is maintained in dollar terms at 84.4 cents a share. Dividend payment is due on May 23.

RTZ in partnership pact

RTZ, which reports 1994 year-end results today, has established a partnership agreement with Freeport-McMoRan Copper & Gold, the first step of which includes a stock market purchase of 21.5 million shares for $450 million, equivalent to a 10.4 per cent stake (Colin Campbell writes).

RTZ America has an option to acquire a further 3.5 million shares, also at market price, for $75 million.

Freeport-McMoRan's principal asset is a 86 per cent stake in the Grasberg copperand gold mine in Irian Jaya, which has proclaimed independence from Indonesia.

The association will also lead to the purchase by RTZ of a 25 per cent stake in a Spanish smelter.



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هكذا من الاصل

☐ A shocking intervention ☐ Regulators cannot be beaten ☐ Arise, Glaxo Wellcome

Man with beard casts thunderbolt

☐ STEPHEN Littlechild has caused an awful lot of people an awful lot of grief, but few more so than the respective boards of Northern Electric, Trafalgar House and the National Grid.

While Northern had to screw up its courage all day before telling its shareholders, reluctantly and shamefacedly, that they should accept the £11 on offer in cash from Trafalgar, the latter was squirming in the spotlight unwilling to say if, or if not, its offer would eventually go ahead.

The answer would appear to be, on balance, probably. Such a heavily hedged conclusion is unavoidable given the uncertainties Professor Littlechild has unleashed, a state of affairs both farcical and deplorable. It leaves Northern shareholders with an impossible dilemma.

The Trafalgar offer was heading towards success well before Littlechild's intrusion. It is now clear, with Northern shares worth £2 less than the £11 on offer, that its shareholders would be best advised to take the money and run. They must do so by Friday, or be left with Trafalgar's rather less attractive cash and convertible preference shares package if the offer succeeds. But Trafalgar's offer could never have gone unconditional on Friday, the closing date, because of the continuation of the government's "golden share" until end-March and the various regulatory agreements that must still be reached.

The conditions attached to the bid are sufficiently wide-ranging that Trafs can probably walk away in due course if it feels so inclined, pointing to Littlechild's action as justification. Yesterday's hedging and prevarication from the Trafs camp suggests this is, at the least, at the back of its mind, which would leave Northern shareholders with nothing.

The confusion deepens because it is obviously not clear what new regulatory regime Littlechild will eventually decide on. Trafalgar therefore genuinely does not know what Northern is worth to it at present. Likewise Northern is unable to say, hand on heart, that its £5 a share package of special loyalty incentives is affordable, given the parallel uncertainty over the National Grid float, the proceeds of which would have provided half that package.

So Trafalgar does not know whether it wants Northern, and Northern cannot honestly say it is worth more than the money on offer. Meanwhile, in another part of the corporate finance jungle, advisors to the National Grid cannot say whether the float will now go ahead. Aside from the general uncertainty that has been unleashed, it is now impossible to decide whether an electricity industry groaning under a new, tough regulatory regime can afford to give the Grid away until that regime is known.

Thanks, Professor. And further thanks from a million new shareholders in National Power and PowerGen, whose immediate profits evaporated overnight.

No more free lunch from the regulator

☐ A FEW years ago, Ian Byatt, Director-General of Water Services, bullied privatised water companies to raise prices by marginally less than they were allowed. Crucial costs were lower than assumed when price limits were set. Some water company bosses immediately heralded the end of their regulatory world. Mr Byatt had yielded to short-termism. Order had given way to chaos. In principle, they were right. In practice, it made no difference, since they had not counted on these windfall gains.



Before last summer's reviews of regional electricity and water price limits, there was much wailing and gnashing of teeth. The figures that Stephen Littlechild and Mr Byatt were mulling would bring ruin. After the regulators duly persisted, two water companies appealed to the monopolies commission. But that was not the general reaction. There were formal statements that the companies could just about live with these challenging targets, soon followed by a wave of stock market euphoria. Electricity companies, in particular, allowed analysts to project dividend rises far higher than the regulator imagined. Prices were certain five years ahead: life was going to be good.

Perhaps this was just good bargaining. Perhaps some companies fooled their regulators. If so, they should perhaps have realised that a regulator who has been made to look as much of a fool as Professor Littlechild is liable to stretch the rules against the companies. They should have remembered that, while price limits had been fixed, a regulator can usually change the rules.

Competition for custom may not have spread as fast as Professor Littlechild hoped. Competition between companies on the stock market is fierce. As Northern's stunning defence strategy showed, companies that used to see themselves as responsible citizens must now pull out all the stops to meet the demands of institutional shareholders. They have no choice. Regulators must look after consumers.

In the unpleasanter times after the demise of golden shares, shareholders must assume that if their company seems to have a wonderful deal from its regulator, it will not last.

Britain's bouncing infant giant

☐ A FALLING stock market cannot have helped Wellcome. But its fate was effectively sealed at the start when the Wellcome Trust decided to commit itself to Glaxo's takeover bid. By doing so, it ruled unilaterally that one of Britain's biggest growth companies would cease to exist. The trust did leave the way clear for counterbidders but battle prospects cannot have looked encouraging for potential white knights when one of the world's largest drugs companies already had its sword aloft and its foot on Wellcome's chest.

Many potential suitors walked away for one reason or another. Zeneca mooted the tactic of committing the trust irrevocably to a higher offer, which would have made such an ambitious move worthwhile. The trust, advised with failsafe legal propriety as before, reckoned that it would breach trust law to rule out a higher return offer from Glaxo. No bid was promised even if the trust promised acceptance, making it too hypothetical to bother a judge.

A smaller rival is always at a disadvantage in bid auctions. But Zeneca's quandary again questions the wisdom of the trust's initial stance. This may have deprived outside shareholders of a higher offer. Memo to investors: don't trust a charitable trust any more than any other controlling shareholder. There is nothing like a good cause to justify behaviour open to question in ordinary mortals.

As Wellcome's John Robb noted, however, that is water under the bridge. However unfair to Wellcome, the thinking put forward by Glaxo's Sir Richard Sykes always looked a powerful business proposition. It will create a wholly British company that is the world's largest drugs manufacturer and is set to save vast overlapping costs. If the merger is well managed, Glaxo Wellcome will have the strength to adjust to harsher price regimes by turning over new drugs faster. It will also be in pole position for the likely further consolidation of this global industry. The child should not be tarnished by the circumstances of its birth.

New Fisons chief 'looked at' sale of drugs businesses

By Sarah Bagnall

STUART WALLIS, the new chief executive at Fisons, said he would not ignore a takeover offer for the group's core drugs division.

"We would be very naive to rule out an offer and at one point did have a good look at whether to clean the entire company out. That is, contact people and offer them all the parts of the business. But we believe that we can add considerable value to Fisons," he said.

As part of this process, Mr Wallis, who joined the company last September, plans to plug the gap in its drug pipeline through either acquisitions, product swaps or licensing in products or a combination of these options.

Furthermore, he added that talks were underway to sell the laboratory supplies business, which, after last week's £202 million sale of the scientific instruments division, will leave the group focused on pharmaceuticals.

"We could stay in laboratory supplies but it would require a great deal of money. We could not do that and stay in pharmaceuticals as well," he said.

In a bid to revive the group's fortunes, Mr Wallis yesterday unveiled a £220.6 million restructuring programme. This, together with a goodwill write-off of £278.6 million on the sale of the scientific instruments division, pushed the group into a loss of £482.7 million in the year to December 31. This compares with a loss of £700,000 last time.

Operating profits, before exceptional items, increased 17 per cent to £75.5 million on sales of £1.29 billion, down from £1.32 billion in the comparable period.

The pharmaceutical division lifted operating profits 30 per cent to £64.3 million on sales up 7 per cent at £475.5 million but both advances were due to the cessation of trade loading. Sales of Intal, the anti-asthma drug, fell 4 per cent while sales of the follow up drug Tilade rose 23 per cent.

The scientific instruments division lost £11.7 million on sales of £260.4 million while laboratory supplies saw profits drop from £27.2 million to £20.8 million.

The bulk of the £220.6 million restructuring charge relates to the pharmaceutical division and includes job losses outside the UK. A £136.7 million sum is for rationalising manufacturing and distribution, involving asset write-downs due to lower and more realistic sales projections for Tilade and Intal.

A further £19.3 million is for reorganising the sales and marketing operations, including site closures and job losses outside the UK. Overall the group expects to axe a couple of hundred overseas jobs. The balance of the exceptional charge is for changes in accounting policies and reorganising the laboratory supplies business.

The group ended the year with net borrowings of £207.9 million and gearing of 104 per cent, which will be eradicated by the scientific instruments sale proceeds. The final dividend, payable July 3, rises from 1p to 2.6p, making an unchanged total for the year of 4.3p. The shares fell 3p to 147p.

ALAN WELLER



DAN WAGNER, left, chief executive of MAID, the online information provider floated last March, and Michael Mander, chairman, are upbeat on prospects after reporting a 113 per cent surge in pre-tax profits to £1.29 million in the year to December 31. Turnover advanced 55 per cent to £8.89 million.

Mr Mander expects new client wins and usage to accelerate with the Profound launch in the US. There is no dividend.

Rentokil on the acquisition trail

By Martin Waller

RENTOKIL, the environmental services group, has the firepower for an acquisition of £500 million or more after another healthy year's profits and cash flows.

The company, which has grown through acquisitions, converted borrowings of £16 million at the start of 1994 into cash balances of £67 million by the year-end.

Rentokil has the chance to borrow another couple of hundred million pounds, and Clive Thompson, the chief executive, made it clear yesterday that he had "no policy or principle" against using the company's highly rated paper to top up any potential purchase.

Rentokil, which pushed pre-tax profits up 20 per cent to £177 million, on turnover 22 per cent higher at £735 million in 1994, has yet to identify the next area of expansion. But Mr Thompson made it clear that one area might be the US security business, acquired in summer 1993 as part of his company's contested bid for Securiguard and found to be a significant underperformer, but now improved.

The company is paying a final dividend of 2.44p, which produces a total improved from 2.85p to 3.45p, well covered by earnings of 11.74p.

Areas that disappointed for Rentokil last year were Continental Europe and Australia, where margins notably trailed the rest of the group, but Mr Thompson was hopeful of improvement this year and a return to much better growth.

The company is aiming to repeat this year its long-running achievement of 20 per cent earnings and profits growth.

Tempus, page 28

THE TIMES
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A Personal Equity Plan (PEP) is a way of investing money out of the reach of the tax man and The Times, in association with TSB Bank, is offering you the chance to win a £6,000 PEP.

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* Source: Micropal offer-to-offer, income not reinvested. (As at 18.2.95).

THE TIMES
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Bristol & West cuts bad debts

By Robert Miller

BRISTOL & WEST Building Society, Britain's eleventh largest, yesterday announced a 38 per cent increase in pre-tax profits to £57.1 million, in spite of a tight squeeze on its margins from tough competition in the mortgage and savings market.

Overall, however, Bristol & West's group operating profits fell by £200,000 to £104.4 million last year. John Burke, the chief executive, said that there was a one-off £7.4 million restructuring cost, after the sale of the Bristol & West Property Services estate agency chain. He added that the society remained committed to Hamptons's estate agency network, although 25 branches had been closed in 1994. The new Hamptons Financial Services arm will be extended throughout the estate agents outlets during this year. Bad-debt provisions fell to £39.9 million from £63.3 million, while the society's all-important cost income ratio fell from 45.1 to 43.9 per cent.

Mr Burke said that Bristol & West had also made moves to standardise its variable mortgage rate in line with most major competitors and given customers in obsolete and closed accounts a better deal. This had cost the society about £9 million.

Mr Burke said that prospects for the housing market this year depended very much on the return of consumer confidence. He added: "What we need now is a decent volume of activity rather than a pick-up in house prices. As part of this, I hope very much that the Government will reconsider certain aspects of its proposed cuts in income support for mortgage interest payments."

Pentos offshoot sold

By Susan Gilchrist

BULLOUGH, the diversified engineering and office products group, has bought Pentos Office Furniture from the administrative receiver to Pentos, its parent, for £9.25 million in cash.

The group beat off one other trade buyer to clinch the deal. Gordon Bond, Bullough's chief executive, said it would transform the group into the biggest player in the £650 million office furniture market.

Pentos Office Furniture was not in receivership, but KPMG, the receiver, owned the shares of the company. The proceeds will go to the banks, which were owed £72 million when the Pentos group went into receivership.

The division made operating profits of £1.01 million on sales of £25.2 million in the year to December 31.

The disposal comes after last week's sale of the Dillons bookshop chain to Thorn EMI for £36 million. Negotiations for the sale of Rymans are still going on. Stephen James, of KPMG, said he had received six formal offers and 12 strong expressions of interest for the chain.

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STOCK MARKET  MICHAEL CLARK

Electricity companies suffer power failure

THE smell of burnt fingers wafted round the Square Mile after the electricity companies blew a fuse suffering losses of more than £2 at one stage.

Last night investors were counting the cost of their involvement in the RECs and the threat by the industry watchdog to impose tough new controls on electricity prices. This may be good news for the consumer but should have carried a health warning for investors.

Last night Professor Stephen Littlechild, the regulator, was a deeply unpopular man in the City and the Government's standing among investors had also taken a hammering. His threat of a further tightening of price controls from April 1, 1996, in addition to those coming into force this April, came just 24 hours after the Government completed the disposal of its remaining 40 per cent holdings in the two English power generators.

By the close of business last night both companies had seen their generous premiums during first time trading on Monday cut back. **National Power** finished in its partly-paid form 10p down at 176½p compared with the initial offer price of 170p, while **PowerGen** was 9p down at 189½p as against the 185p offer.

Professor Littlechild's comments also caught the speculators on the hop making the entire sector less attractive to bidders than it was 48 hours earlier. Trafalgar seemed to be guaranteed of winning the battle for control of **Northern Electricity** with its £11 a share offer, while a late announcement from Northern confirmed that it had thrown in the towel and urged shareholders to accept the terms of the offer from Trafalgar House.

Northern last night closed 158p down at 897p as more than £170 million was cut from the group's stock market value of almost £1.2 billion.

Another takeover favourite, **Yorkshire Electricity**, also saw its stock market value crumble by £331 million to £1.2 billion as the share price plunged 180p to 664p.

Losses elsewhere in the sector were widespread. One broker likened it to a bloodbath with **East Midland**, down 155p at 595p, after briefly touching 575p, and **South West**, collapsing 183p to 629p, after touching 608p. **Eastern**, which immediately rejected the need for a further tightening of price controls, slumped 103p to 595p. There were also losses for **London**, 122p to 608p, **Manweb**, 127p to 689p, **Midlands**, 119p to 622p, **Norweb**, 135p to 663p, **Seeboard**, 67p to 362p, **South Wales**, 136p to 675p, and **Southern**, 122p to 603p.

The fall-out from the RECs also affected the water utilities although the industry regulator moved quickly to offer reassurances that it would not be following the example of his counterpart. Losses were still recorded as **North West** dropped 21p to 517p, **Severn Trent**, 17p to 510p, **South West**, 15p to 480p, **Southern**, 20p to 546p, **Thames**, 18p to 479p, **Welsh**, 32p to 605p, **Wessex Water**, 17p to 267p, and **Yorkshire**, 11p to 516p. **Northumbrian**, which was threatened by a bid on Monday from the French water company **Lyonnaise des Eaux**, dropped 28p to 842p.

The turmoil among the utilities proved all too much for the rest of the equity market with share prices beating a rapid retreat as investors again scurried for cover. The damage was limited among the top 100 companies. The FT-SE 100 index dropped below the 3,000 mark with a fall of 24.9 at 2,977.0 as a total of 777 million were traded. But a quick glance at the FT-SE 250 revealed the extent of the damage caused by the utilities as it finished 66.8 down at 3,327.9.

Glaxo celebrated the decision of **Wellcome** to accept the terms of its £9 billion bid with a rise of 19p to 667p, after briefly touching 687p. The terms from Glaxo value Wellcome at £10.25. Wellcome closed 9p lower at £10.27.

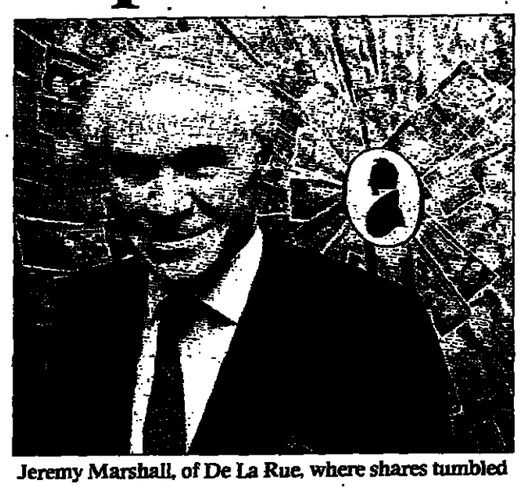
Barclays Bank dropped 18p to 588p in spite of trying to whet investors appetites with a 40 per cent hike in the dividend to 21p. This followed a near trebling of pre-tax profits last year to £1.8 billion on the back of a drop in provisions for bad debts from £1.87 billion to £602 million. But a drop in lending and reduced dealing income from BZW left operating profits almost 10 per cent lower at £2.3 billion. Last night Credit Lyonnais Laing, the broker, was urging clients to switch out of Barclays and into **National Westminster**, down 5½p at 476½p.

Rentokil fell 4½p to 216½p in spite of Clive Thompson, chairman, living up to his promise of achieving earnings growth of 20 per cent per annum. Pre-tax profits were 20.4 per cent ahead at £177 million and earnings up almost 21 per cent at 11.74p a share. A flat performance in Europe countered encouraging performances in Britain and the US.

De La Rue, the security printer, which last year acquired rival Portals for £682 million, tumbled 147p to 885p on the back of a profits warning. The company said it would achieve only modest earnings growth in the year to March 1996. It blamed a drop in the bank note order book which was below that of last year. De La Rue has now put up for sale all the non-security papermaking operations acquired along with Portals.

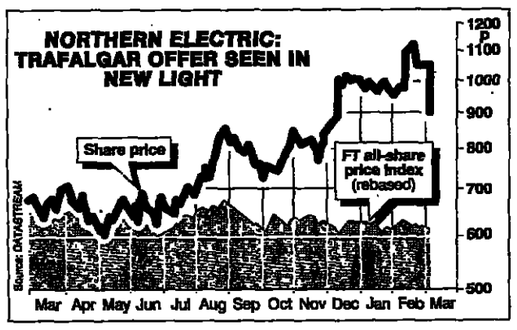
☐ **GILT-EDGED:** Gilts were unsettled by renewed weakness in sterling and falls among German bunds. In the futures pit the June series of the long gilt tumbled £1's to £100[13/32] as the number of contracts completed soared to 114,000. Among conventional issues Treasury 8 per cent 2013 dropped £1[7/32] to £93[21/32], while in shorts Treasury 8 per cent 2000 was £[21/32] off at £96[13/16].

☐ **WALL STREET:** Shares on the New York Stock Exchange were forced lower in morning trading, under the continuing pressure of a weak dollar and the fear of higher interest rates. The Dow Jones industrial average at midday had slumped 42.53 points to 3,955.03.



Jeremy Marshall, of De La Rue, where shares tumbled

Yesterday's bloodbath among the utilities bodes badly for the start of trading in Albright and Wilson this morning. The offer price has already been cut from 170p to 150p. Brokers had been looking for an opening premium of between 20p and 30p but last night had revised down their estimates to 10p to 15p.



MAJOR INDICES

New York (midday):
Dow Jones 3955.03 (-42.53)
S&P Composite 480.40 (-5.23)

Tokyo:
Nikkei Average 16955.28 (-85.44)

Hong Kong:
Hang Seng 8138.66 (+44.75)

Amsterdam:
EOE Index 398.74 (-3.38)

Sydney:
AO 1891.2 (-0.4)

Frankfurt:
DAX 2053.34 (-16.98)

Singapore:
Straits 2098.53 (-28.46)

Brussels:
General 6770.79 (-71.96)

Paris:
CAC-40 1748.61 (-24.64)

Zurich:
SKA Gen 604.50 (-3.80)

London:

FT 30	2277.6 (-9.8)
FT 100	2977.0 (-24.9)
FT-SE Mid 250	3327.9 (-66.8)
FT-SE Eurotrack 100	1249.20 (-11.98)
FT A All-Share	1470.41 (-15.05)
FT Non Financials	1591.14 (-17.29)
FT Gold Mines	n/a
FT Fixed Interest	109.16 (-0.52)
FT Govt Secs	90.35 (-0.69)
Bargains	29945
SEAQ Volume	777.7m
USM (Datastrm)	145.74 (-0.37)
US$	1.6242 (-0.0170)
German Mark	2.2604 (-0.0417)
Exchange Index	86.5 (-1.2)
Bank of England official close (4pm)	
£/ECU	1.2218
£/SDR	1.0758
RPI	146.0 Jan (3.3%) Jan 1987=100

RECENT ISSUES

Bath Press (10)	12½	...
Colleagues	126	...
GET Group (125)	128	...
Geared Inc IT (100)	101	...
Inv Tst of IT	84	...
Inv Tst of IT Wts	56	...
Lazard Birla Ida	50¼	+ ½
Lazard Birla Ida Wts	29¼	+ ¼
MCIT S Cap (35)	33	–1
MCIT S Inc (35)	36	...
Melrose Engy Wts	4½	...
Nat Power (p/p) (476)	176½	–10
Photobition (150)	153	...
PowerGen (p/p) (512)	189½	–9
Throgmorton	101½	+ ½
Wessex Trust	11	...
Zotefoams (145)	178	...

RIGHTS ISSUES

Cadbury Schws p/p	188	–1
Dalgety p/p (335)	67	...
Shorco n/p (90)	1	...
Torex Hire n/p (50)	2½	...
Wyko n/p (52)	14	...

MAJOR CHANGES

RISES:

Courtaulds	438p (+8p)
Adsorne	295p (+8p)
Ranger	380p (+12p)
Zeneca	878p (+14p)
Glaxo	667p (+19p)

FALLS:

Kleinwort Benson	559p (-16p)
Schroders	1403p (-17p)
SG Warburg	679p (-12p)
Bass	494p (-10p)
Morland	430p (-15p)
Redland	425p (-10p)
Wolseley	332p (-14p)
Waste Mgt Intl	298p (-12p)
Copymore	140p (-10p)
GKN	563p (-12p)
Granada	500p (-10p)
Rank Org	363p (-10p)
Pearson	553p (-9p)
Utd Newspapers	502p (-9p)
Wellcome	1027p (-9p)

Closing Prices Page 31

TEMPUS

A capital problem

IF BARCLAYS manages to produce anything like the level of retained profit this year that it tucked away in 1994 it will find itself rather embarrassed. Chief among the problems facing UK banks has been the sluggish demand for credit. As businesses pile up profits and cash, they show a marked reluctance to borrow to invest in new capacity.

Big companies are returning capital to their shareholders seeing few opportunities to achieve better than pedestrian returns from new investment or acquisitions and Barclays may soon be in the same boat. The bank is earning a handsome 20 per cent plus return on equity but even the bank admits that is unsustainable long-term and net interest margins of 3 per cent will soon erode with competition.

The notion of surplus capital is new to the banking industry which only five years ago would have happily geared up its lending book on every spare penny. A wiser Barclays is happy with its current capital base opening up the prospect of a share buy-back. However, the bank yesterday said it was in no hurry to return funds to investors and threw cold water on the prospect of a big acquisition.

In an ideal world Barclays would like to raise capital and return it as and when its balance sheet required it. But investors are unlikely to be so flexible and, like bankers, may be reluctant to invest when the company finds it needs funds. Barclays is right to be wary of acquisitions and may be tempted to hang on to its earnings in the hope that strong loan demand will come back but yesterday's fall in operating income gives investors little reason to hold their breath.

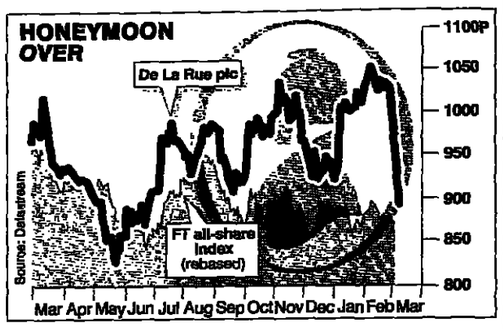
De La Rue

THE awesome fall in De La Rue shares, wiping 14 per cent off the company's stock market value, was prompted by a trading statement that was anodyne in the extreme. The market over-reaction, if such it was, does at least emphasise the fragility of the share price, and the exaggerated hopes pinned on the Portals deal.

De La Rue was forced to pay more than 30 times' earnings to bring a reluctant Portals to the altar, so some dilution from the sale of peripheral assets, at lower multiples, would seem inevitable.

That dilution is unlikely to exceed a penny or so a share off forecast earnings of 56p for the year to the end of March. The bad trading news from De La Rue can be summed up thus: the German Garny business is suffering from increased competition that is hitting margins. At the same time, the core banknote business cannot hope to repeat the record performance of last year.

De La Rue's shares, before yesterday's shock, were selling on more than 18 times' earnings, a good 25 per cent premium to the market. They are now on a multiple of under 16, which seems a little more reasonable. However, plenty of investors acquired shares at near their current level during the bid. They have now seen their large capital gains disappear in a few seconds, and will not forget that the market is an unforgiving beast.



Rentokil

RENTOKIL is the ultimate perpetual motion machine. An insistence on raising profits and earnings per share annually by 20 per cent for the foreseeable future requires a continued round of small, and sometimes bigger, acquisitions.

Strong cash flow means that funding is not a problem. But as Rentokil achieves dominance in its newest market, the supply of underperforming smaller competitors that can provide the next year's profit boost becomes more limited.

But that 20 per cent target means that only low-performing businesses can be acquired — there is no point in taking over a company where the Rentokil management have no opportunity of adding value. This means the group must occasionally launch into a new area of the service industry, and therein lies the danger — that the management will blunder into an area they do not understand and suffer accordingly.

Rentokil is at that difficult stage at the moment, probably requiring a leap into the dark. Catering has been considered, but most of the players in Britain are either under new management, or too well run. These are the looming uncertainties; but the shares are still selling on 16 times' earnings for this year, which would seem to put a low value on the group's achievements so far.

TI Group

WHEN engineering shares trade at premiums to the market, suspicious investors tend to think about selling. TI Group, however, is the exception that proves the rule. The company has consistently grown its dividend over the last ten years, and on the most conservative estimates should achieve £170 million of profit in the current year.

TI has two market leaders in John Crane, the industrial seals business, and Bundy, which makes brake and fuel systems. Both have market shares of about 50 per cent, but TI expects further growth from new products. Margins, which rose a full point to 11.3 per cent, could show further improvement.

TI's problem in the past has been producing cash from its growing business, but last year a squeeze on working capital and lower spending on restructuring allowed the cash to pour in, and the market is expecting TI to be cash positive by the year-end. That leaves TI with the scope for a substantial acquisition, and it will be hard-pressed to find a suitable candidate. But with the existing business turning over nicely and the promise of a growing repair order book at Dowty, TI can justify its premium without a mammoth deal.

EDITED BY CARL MORTISHED

COMMODITIES

LONDON COMMODITY EXCHANGE

COCOA

Mar	1027-1023	May	1054-1052
May	1020-1019	Jul	1064-1062
Jul	1026-1024	Sep	1070-1066
Sep	1032-1031	Dec	1081-1078
Dec	1031-1030		
Mar	1045-1043		Volume: 6570

ROBUSTA COFFEE ($)

Mar	3235-3220	Nov	3060-3056
May	3189-3187	Jan	3035-3020
Jul	3117-3115	Mar	3020-3000
Sep	3090-3085		Volume: 2709

WHITE SUGAR (FOB)

Reuters		Dec	338.5-37.5
Spot: 392.0		Mar	336.5-34.5
May	384.5-83.5	May	336.5-33.1
Aug	371.4-70.5	Aug	334.5-30.5
Oct	345.1-43.9		Volume: 2111

MEAT & LIVESTOCK COMMISSION

Average fatstock prices at representative markets on March 6

(p/kg lw)	Pig	Sheep	Cattle
GB:	92.02	122.63	121.79
(+/–)	+4.19	+0.18	+0.32
Eng/Wales:	92.35	122.89	121.57
(+/–)	+4.22	+0.23	+0.31
(%)	+6.0	n/c	–4.0
Scotland:	82.86	121.56	123.73
(+/–)	+3.32	–0.10	+0.73
(%)	+5.0	–8.0	–19.0

ICIS-LOR (London 6.00pm)

CRUDE OILS ($/barrel FOB)

Brent Physical	16.85	+0.05
Brent IS day (Apr)	16.90	+0.05
Brent IS day (May)	16.75	–0.05
W Texas Intermediate (Apr)	18.60	n/c
W Texas Intermediate (May)	18.40	n/c

PRODUCTS ($/MT)

Spot CIF NW Europe (prompt delivery)

Premium Gas .15	B: 171 (–1)	O: 173 (–1)	
Gasoil EEC	146 (+2)	148 (–1)	
Non EEC 1H Apr	148 (n/c)	149 (–2)	
Non EEC 1H May	169 (–1)	150 (–1)	
3.5 Fuel Oil	107 (+2)	110 (+3)	
Naphtha	171 (+1)	173 (+1)	

IPE FUTURES (GNI Ltd)

GAS OIL

Mar	144.50-44.75	Jun	147.25-47.50
Apr	146.50-46.75	Jul	148.75-49.00
May	147.00-47.25		Vol: 32601

BRENT (6.00pm)

Apr	16.86-16.88	Jul	16.60-16.66
May	16.72-16.73	Aug	16.55-16.61
Jun	16.70 BID		Vol: 24390

GNI LONDON GRAIN FUTURES

WHEAT (close £/t)		BARLEY (close £/t)	
Mar	108.95	Mar	103.75
May	110.35	May	104.55
Jul	111.30	Sep	97.25
Sep	99.75	Nov	99.85
Nov	100.05	Jan	101.50
	Volume: 77		Volume: 56

POTATO (£/t)

	Open	Close
Apr	299.5	304.0
May	345.0	345.5
Jul	unq	
		Volume: 199

RUBBER (No 1 RSS Clf p/kg)

Apr 119.75-120.25

BIFFEX (GNI Ltd $10/pt)

	High	Low	Close
Mar 95	2160	2150	2175
Apr 95	2170	2150	2166
May 95	2145	2125	2141
Jul 95	1895	1870	1893

Vol: 371 lots Open Interest: 4085

Index 2083 +11

(Official) (Volume prev day)

Copper Gde A ($/tonne)	
Lead ($/tonne)	
Zinc Spec Hi Gde ($/tonne)	
Tin ($/tonne)	
Aluminium Hi Gde ($/tonne)	
Nickel ($/tonne)	

LONDON METAL EXCHANGE — Reuter Wolff

Cash: 2892.0-2893.0 3mths: 2884.0-2885.0 Vol: 14131?5

	578.00-579.00
	1022.5-1023.0
	5320.0-5330.0
	1850.0-1850.5
	7600.0-7610.0
	286200
	689075
	24360
	1974800
	79524

LONDON FINANCIAL FUTURES

	Period	Open	High	Low	Sett	Vol
FT-SE 100	Mar 95	3003.0	3007.0	2960.0	2973.0	15535
Previous open interest: 67925	Jun 95	3009.0	3011.0	2967.0	2979.0	2577
FT-SE 250	Mar 95	3375.0	3375.0	3330.0	3330.0	809
Previous open interest: 4113	Jun 95	3352.0	3352.0	3351.5	3350.0	608
Three Month Sterling	Mar 95	93.18	93.20	93.08	93.11	20826
Previous open interest: 455845	Jun 95	92.47	92.47	92.27	92.33	59950
	Sep 95	91.95	91.98	91.80	91.84	20813
Three Mth Eurodollar	Mar 95	93.69	93.69	93.68	93.68	109
Previous open interest: 2738	Jun 95				93.33	0
Three Mth Euro DM	Mar 95	94.97	94.99	94.89	94.92	24052
Previous open interest: 824518	Jun 95	94.72	94.74	94.56	94.60	106853
Long Gilt	Mar 95	101-08	101-13	100-01	100-07	6703
Previous open interest: 103884	Jun 95	101-21	101-23	100-08	100-15	114413
Japanese Govmt Bond	Jun 95	111.27	111.38	111.02	111.27	4945
	Sep 95				110.42	0
German Gov Bd Bund	Mar 95	91.12	91.38	90.60	90.69	13355
Previous open interest: 207062	Jun 95	90.70	90.92	89.85	90.01	224092
Three month ECU	Mar 95	93.49	93.49	93.20	93.18	1704
Previous open interest: 27084	Jun 95	93.12	93.14	92.81	92.83	3550
Euro Swiss Franc	Mar 95	96.13	96.14	96.10	96.11	1326
Previous open interest: 47493	Jun 95	95.83	95.87	95.79	95.80	4390
Italian Govmt Bond	Jun 95	93.65	93.92	91.96	92.30	47771
Previous open interest: 47584	Sep 95				91.30	0

MONEY RATES (%)

Base Rates: Clearing Banks 6% Finance Hse 7

Discount Market Loans: O/night high: 6½ Low 4½ Week fixed: 5⅞

Treasury Bills (Dis): Buy: 2 mth 6⅛ ; 3 mth 6⅛ . Sell: 2 mth 6⅛ ; 3 mth: 6⅛ .

	1 mth	2 mth	3 mth	6 mth	12 mth
Prime Bank Bills (Dis):	6⅛–6⅛	6⅛–6⅛	6⅛–6⅛	6⅛–6⅛	
Sterling Money Rates:	6⅛–6⅛	6⅛–6⅛	6⅛–6⅛	7⅛–7	7⅛–7⅛
Interbank:	6⅛–6⅛	6⅛–6⅛	6⅛–6⅛	7⅛–7	7⅛–7⅛

Overnight: open 5⅞, close 8 .

Local Authority Deps:	6⅛	n/a	6⅛	7	7⅛
Sterling CDs:	6⅛–6⅛	6⅛–6⅛	6⅛–6⅛	7⅛–6⅞	7⅛–7⅜
Dollar CDs:	6.04	n/a	6.23	6.44	6.82
Building Society CDs:	6⅛–6⅛	6⅛–6⅛	6⅛–6⅛	7⅛–6⅞	7⅛–7⅜

ECGD: Fixed Rate Sterling Export Finance. Make-up day: Jan 31, 1995 Agreed rates Feb 28, 1995 to Mar 25, 1995 Scheme III: 7.87%. Reference rate Dec 31, 1994 to Jan 31, 1995 Scheme IV & V: 6.624%.

EUROPEAN MONEY DEPOSITS (%)

Currency	7 day	1 mth	3 mth	6 mth	Call
Dollar:	6–5⅛	6⅛–5⅞	6⅛–6⅛	6⅛–6⅛	5⅝–4⅞
Deutschemark:	4⅛–4⅛	4⅛–4⅛	5⅛–4⅞	5⅛–5⅛	5⅛–4⅛
French Franc:	6⅛–6⅛	7⅛–6⅞	7⅛–7	7⅛–7	6⅛–5⅛
Swiss Franc:	3⅜–2⅞	3⅜–3⅛	3⅛–3⅛	4⅛–3⅞	4⅛–3⅛
Yen:	2⅛–2	2⅛–2⅛	2⅛–2⅛	2⅛–2⅛	2⅛–1⅞

GOLD/PRECIOUS METALS (Baird & Co)

Bullion: Open $378.80-379.20 Close: $381.20-381.70 High: $381.80-382.20
Low: $377.50-378.00 A.M: $379.00 PM: $382.00

Krugerrand: $382.50-384.50 (£234.00-236.00)

Platinum: $415.00 (£255.95) Silver: $4.54 (£2.775) Palladium: $154.50 (£95.30)

STERLING SPOT AND FORWARD RATES

Mkt Rates for March 7	Range	Close	1 month	3 month
Amsterdam	2.5278-2.5525	2.5278-2.5311	½-¼pr	1¾-1½pr
Brussels	46.85-47.18	46.85-47.00	5pr-par	12-6pr
Copenhagen	9.1700-9.2310	9.2140-9.2290	¼pr-¼ds	1-½pr
Dublin	0.9976-1.0027	1.0000-1.0025	3pr-par	5-1pr
Frankfurt	2.2556-2.2829	2.2556-2.2587	¼-¼pr	1-¾pr
Lisbon	239.20-242.33	241.60-242.33	67-76ds	222-255ds
Madrid	208.07-209.07	208.77-209.07	43-62ds	125-165ds
Milan	2665.60-2683.80	2677.10-2687.00	8-11ds	23-29ds
Montreal	2.3010-2.3309	2.3278-2.3309	0.33-0.43ds	0.62-0.78ds
New York	1.6278-1.6410	1.6400-1.6410	0.04-0.03pr	0.16-0.11pr
Oslo	10.1160-10.1530	10.1380-10.1530	1¼-¾pr	4¼-3¼pr
Paris	8.0520-8.0780	8.0630-8.0770	¾-¼ds	1-1¼ds
Stockholm	11.7230-11.8160	11.7230-11.7740	1¼-2¼ds	5¼-7ds
Tokyo	148.74-149.82	148.94-149.20	¼-¼pr	1¼-1¾ds
Vienna	15.92-16.12	16.08-16.12	2¼-1¼pr	7½-5¼pr
Zurich	1.8784-1.9118	1.8784-1.8813	¼-¼pr	1½-1¼pr

Source: Extel Premium = pr. Discount = ds.

DOLLAR RATES

Australia	1.3590-1.3598
Austria	9.81-9.82
Belgium (Com)	28.88-28.89
Canada	1.4205-1.4210
Denmark	5.6498-5.6532
France	4.9675-4.9690
Germany	1.3905-1.3910
Hong Kong	7.7305-7.7315
Ireland	1.6225-1.6240
Italy	1652.0-1652.6
Japan	91.60-91.70
Malaysia	2.5455-2.5465
Netherlands	1.5638-1.5643
Norway	6.2298-6.2333
Portugal	147.35-147.45
Singapore	1.4225-1.4235
Spain	128.38-128.53
Sweden	7.2308-7.2373
Switzerland	1.1630-1.1640

OTHER STERLING

Argentina peso	1.6213-1.6241
Australia dollar	2.1974-2.2002
Bahrain dinar	0.6077-0.6119
Brazil real	1.3707-1.3749
Cyprus pound	0.7155-0.7255
Finland markka	6.985-7.101
Greece drachma	365.25-372.25
Hong Kong dollar	12.5342-12.5436
India rupee	51.53-52.49
Kuwait dinar KD	0.475-0.485
Malaysia ringgit	4.1273-4.1314
Mexico peso	n/a
New Zealand dollar	2.5119-2.5153
Pakistan rupee	49.65 Buy
Saudi Arabia riyal	6.040-6.166
Singapore dollar	2.3083-2.3114
S Africa rand (fin)	6.2036-6.2400
S Africa rand (com)	5.7964-5.8025
U A E dirham	5.915-6.039

Barclays Bank GTS • Lloyds Bank

FT-SE VOLUMES

3I	145	Legal & Gn	1,800
ASDA Gp	7,900	Lloyds Bk	2,000
Abbey Natl	3,300	MEPC	305
Alld Dom	1,000	Marks Spr	4,400
Argyll Gp	2,700	NatWst Bk	1,300
Argo Wiggn	1,200	Nat Power	19,000
Ass Brit Ports	800	Nth Wst W	2,600
BAA	3,600	P & O	1,800
BAT Inds	3,400	Pearson	400
BOC	968	PowerGen	8,600
BP	10,000	Prudential	1,800
BTR	8,700	RMC	89
BT	9,100	RTZ	2,000
Bk of Scot	1,100	Rank Org	2,300
Barclays	8,100	Reckitt & Col	1,300
Bass	4,500	Redland	1,100
Blue Circle	2,800	Reed Intl	830
Boots	910	Rentokil	2,000
Boustead	726	Reuters	3,300
Brit Aero	996	Rolls Royce	1,400
Brit Airways	2,700	Rtl Ins	5,000
Brit Gas	6,800	Rtl Bk Scot	2,900
Brit Steel	5,400	Sainsbury	1,700
Burmah Cast	319	Schroders	14
Cable Wire	2,500	Scot & New	482
Cadbury	2,000	Scot Power	1,900
Caradon	368	Sears	9,200
Carlton Cms	1,200	Svrn Trent	2,600
Cm Union	591	Shell Trans	5,100
Courtaulds	1,400	Siebe	985
De La Rue	8,700	Smkl Bch	8,000
Eastern Elec	6,100	Smith Nph	1,300
Enterpr Oil	275	Stlrm Elec	4,100
Forte	992	Std Chartd	2,700
GKN	1,200	Sun Alnce	502
GRE	1,300	Tl Gp	1,400
GUS	1,100	TSB	2,600
Gen Acc	3,000	Tesco	2,800
Gen Elec	7,300	Thames W	1,900
Glaxo	31,000	Thrn EMI	1,100
Granada	1,700	Tomkins	1,800
Grand Met	4,200	Unilever	1,000
Guinness	2,600	Utd Biscs	115
HSBC	2,500	Vodafone	5,300
Hanson	3,900	Warburg (SG)	591
ICI	2,400	Wellcome	9,000
Inchcape	4,000	Whitbread	864
Kingfisher	707	Wilms Hld	1,600
Ladbroke	1,700	Wolseley	1,000
Land Secs	1,200	Zeneca	6,800

WALL STREET

	Mar 7 midday	Mar 6 close
AMP Inc	37½	37¾
AMR Corp	60¾	60¾
AT & T	51	51¼
Abbott Labs	34¾	35¼
Advanced Micro	33¾	34¼
Aetna Life	53¾	54¼
Ahmanson (H F)	17¾	17¾
Air Prod & Chem	47¾	48¼
Albertson's	31¼	31½
Alcan Aluminm	23½	23¾
Alco Standard	65¾	66¼
Allied Signal	37¾	37¾
Alum Co of Am	37¾	38¼
Amax Gold Inc	5¾	5¾
Amerada Hess	49¾	50¼
Amer Brands	37¾	37¾
Amer El Power	32¼	32¾
Amer Express	33¾	33¾
Amer Genl Corp	31¼	31½
Amer Home Pr	72¾	72¾
Amer Intl	101½	102¼
Amer Stores	24¾	24¾
Ameritech	41	41¼
Amoco	59¾	60
Anheuser-Busch	56½	56¾
Apple Computer	39	39¾
Archer Daniels	19¾	19¾
Armco	6¼	6¼
Armstrong Wrld	45¾	46¼
Asarco	25¾	26¼
Ashland Oil	33¾	33¾
Atl Richfield	109¾	111¼
Auto Data Pro	61¼	61¾
Avery Dennison	36¾	36¾
Avon Products	56¾	57¾
Baker Hughes	19¾	19¾
Baltim Gas & El	22¾	22¾
Banc One	38¾	39¼
BankAmerica	46¾	46¾
Banks of NY	31¼	31¼
Bankers Tr NY	61¼	62¼
Barnett Banks	44¼	44¾
Bausch & Lomb	33	33¼
Baxter Intl	31	31
Bectn Dickinson	53¾	53¾
Bell Atlantic	51¼	51½
BellSouth	57	56¾
Black & Decker	26¾	26¾
Block (H&R)	38½	39¼
Boeing	45¾	45¾
Boise Cascade	30¾	31
Borden Inc	12¾	13¾
Bristol Myrs Sq	60½	60¾
Browning Ferris	30¾	30¾
Brunswick	19¾	19¾
Burlington Nthn	54¾	55¼
CBS	65½	66
CNA Financial	72¾	73¼
CPC Intl	52¾	53
CSX	74¾	75¾
Campbell Soup	45¾	46¼
Can Pacific	13¾	13¾
Cpnl Cities ABC	87	87
Carolina Pwr	26¾	26¾
Caterpillar	48¾	48¾
Central & SW	22¾	23¼
Champion Intl	39	39¼
Chase Manhat	35	35¼
Chemical Bk	38¾	39¼
Chevron Corp	47¾	47¾
Chrysler	40¾	39¾
Chubb Corp	77¾	77¾
Cigna Corp	74	75¼
Cinergy	41¾	42¾
Clorox	61¼	62¼
Coastal Corp	28¾	28¾
Coca Cola	55¾	55¾
Colgate-Palmolive	63¾	64¼
Columbia Gas	25¾	25¾
Compaq Comp	33¾	34¼
Comp Ass Int	61¼	63¾
Conagra	32¾	33¼
Conrail	51¼	52¼
Cons Edison	26¾	26¾
Cons Nat Gas	36¾	37¼
Cooper Inds	38¾	38¾
Corning Inc	31¾	31¾
Crown Cork	42¾	42¾
Dana Corp	25¾	26¼
Dayton Hudson	69¾	70¼
Deere	74¾	75¾
Delta Air Lines	56¾	57
Deluxe Corp	27¾	28
Detroit Edison	27¾	27¾
Digital Equip	31¾	32¼
Dilliard Dept Sts	25¾	25¾
Disney (Walt)	54¾	56
Dominion Res	36¾	36¾
Donelley (RR)	34¾	34¾
Dover Corp	59¾	59¾
Dow Chemical	64¾	64¾
Dow Jones	34¾	35¾
Dresser	20¾	21¼
Duke Power	38¾	38¾
Dun & Bradstreet	51¼	52¾
Du Pont	54¾	55¾
Eastman Kodak	50¾	50¾
Eaton Corp	49¾	50
Emerson Elec		

THE TIMES

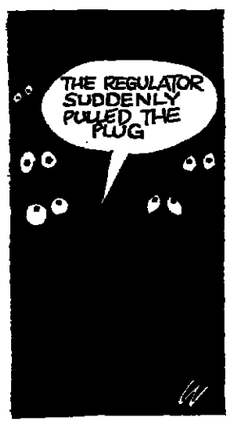
CITY DIARY

Costly S&P small print

THE big print giveth, and the small print taketh away. The Save & Prosper Managed Portfolio Pep says: "The plan manager reserves the right to deduct £25 plus VAT from your plan on each occasion that you attend shareholders' meetings and/or direct voting rights. In addition, if you elect to receive the annual report and accounts of any of the companies within your plan, a charge of currently £25 plus VAT per shareholding will be deducted from your plan on each occasion that the information is sent to you." An S&P spokesman could not explain why the charges were necessary, but offered to find out. After almost ten minutes hanging on, the answer was: "It is the company's rules". My source asked "Why?", and came the answer: " I don't know." S&P says no charges have been levied.

Great Scot

City pundits in London and Edinburgh, increasingly an important financial centre, are likely to wake up this morning to a quite different Scottish newspaper. In celebration of International Women's Week, the long established *Scotsman*, with a publishing history of almost two centuries, has changed its name — though just for 24 hours — to the *Scotswoman*. The newspaper's financial staff are said to be less than amused. Will the *Scotsman* become the *Scot* to satisfy all gender studies within six months?



Flocking to gold

NOT every shepherd might have been successful in applying for shares in National Power and PowerGen. But those looking after sheep in Wales seem to be having better luck in applying for shares in Welsh Gold, coming to the market under Rule 4.2 on Thursday next week. Ruth Gifford, of Brook Corporate Finance, which has been responsible for the financing for the Welsh jewellery-cum-gold mining company, detects from the questions being asked that many locals are absolute newcomers to the stock market. "I have had calls from shepherds, farmers, policemen, pensioners and clergymen, many of whom say they are applying for sentimental reasons and because the wife has a wedding ring made of Welsh gold." Application lists, minimum 1,000 shares, close on Tuesday. Meanwhile, the Welsh gold mine is rivalling Blind Date. During a recent mine visit, a lad proposed to his girlfriend. An engagement ring was ordered, and Welsh Gold has now been commissioned to make the wedding ring.

THE first, probably of many, Baring snatches has occurred. Smith New Court has recruited a team of 11 research analysts covering the Japanese stock market for its Tokyo office, and Geoffrey Barker has joined as head of research. SNC's Japanese subsidiary has now been granted membership of the Tokyo and Osaka stock exchanges.

COLIN CAMPBELL

Ross Tieman and Robert Miller travel the top wages network

Resisting the pay chain reaction

Cedric Brown, the beleaguered chief executive of British Gas, was yesterday yet again grilled by angry MPs on the Commons Cross Party Employment committee, over his new pay package.

Martin Taylor, chief executive of Barclays Bank, has received no such summons. Yet his bank, which serves millions of customers, many of whom are distinctly unhappy about the service they receive, yesterday unveiled pre-tax profits of £1.9 billion. Last year, Mr Taylor's first full year with the bank, it is understood that his pay package totalled about £737,500, substantially more than Mr Brown's.

The fresh outcry has been stirred by pay increases and generous share option packages at privatised utility companies that are adopting private sector salary norms. But what determines private sector pay? Is it too high? Or, have we as a nation been undervaluing our top executives and their contribution to wealth creation?

Sir Adrian Cadbury set out to establish fresh guidelines to stop companies going bust without any warning in his 1992 Corporate Governance report. His guidelines have also become the bible for UK companies that want to be seen as being open and honest. The key aspect of the Cadbury guidelines was the use of a new breed of non-executive directors. These would be men and women who could view a particular business objectively. More importantly, Cadbury recommended that boards should have remuneration committees to recommend levels of board pay. He added that the committees should consist "wholly or mainly of non-executive directors".

This practice has now been widely adopted by leading companies. Yet concerns persist. Pensions and Investment Research Consultants (PIRC) compiled for *The Times* a breakdown of non-executive directors of FT-SE 100 companies who sit on the remuneration committee of more than one company in the index. The information is drawn from the latest published accounts of each company — in most cases covering 1993 — and some changes have occurred since.

Nonetheless, the computer print out provides a remarkable snapshot of the network through which Britain's senior industrialists and bankers share information and ideas about "appropriate" levels of pay for directors who actually run the companies.

To see how the chart works, take the example of Barclays, which reported its results yesterday. The chairman of Barclay's remuneration committee is Sir Denys Henderson, the full-time chairman of ICI. Sir Denys sits, as a non-executive director, on the remuneration committees of two other companies: RTZ, the mining group, and Rank Organisation. At RTZ, he joins Lord Armstrong, the former Cabinet Secretary, and others, to set directors' pay levels.

Follow the lines along the chart. Lord Armstrong, it shows, is also on the remuneration committee of BAT, the tobacco group, and of Inchcape, the industrial conglomerate, where he meets Sir David Plastow, the former chairman of Vickers.

The chart shows that Sir David also sits on the pay committees of Guinness and the TSB . . . and so it goes on. So ideas about appropriate levels of pay are exchanged from company to company, along an informal network of colleagues. But wait. The chart does not tell us the whole story. Sir Denys and Sir Derek Birkin sat around a table at Barclays to decide how much the executive directors should be paid. Yet Sir Derek also earned £588,681, in 1993, as the chairman of RTZ. And Sir Denys, the chart shows, was a member of the committee at RTZ that determines Sir Derek's pay.

Now what seems to be happening is that the privatised utilities are gradually being assimilated into this private sector pay network. Most of the utilities that feature in the chart are on the periphery of the network — witness Thames Water, Southern Electric, and BT. In bringing into their boardrooms independent directors with commercial expertise, they have also opened the door to private-sector ideas about pay.

The chart also shows that British Gas went further, faster, than other utilities in appointing members of this network to its board. By 1993, it had four non-executive directors who were also members of remuneration committees of other FT-SE 100 companies.

The chairman of British Gas is Richard Giordano. An able American, accustomed to high rewards across the Atlantic, he has been at the heart of disputes over pay since 1982, when he became chief executive of BOC, the industrial gases group, on a salary of £477,100. Mr Giordano remained Britain's best-paid executive for most of the 1980s. Within months of his appointment as British Gas chairman in December, 1992, Mr Giordano asked for the executive pay structure to be redesigned, in tandem with a massive reorganisation of the company, implemented by Cedric Brown, chief executive, to prepare for competition in the supply of domestic gas.

Roger Boissier, the 64-year-old chairman of the remuneration committee, has spent a lifetime in industry and chaired several public companies. His committee designed a new pay structure, based on a scheme at Reuters, the information group. The non-executive directors who approved it last summer were Mr Boissier, David Benson, Stanley Kalms, Baroness Platt, Mr Giordano and Lord Walker. Each non-executive director of British Gas is a member of the remuneration committee. Each receives a fee of £20,000 a year, apart from Mr Giordano, who works three days a week and earns £450,000.

Building up a portfolio of non-executive directorships can be lucrative. Although a British Gas director, Lord Walker does not feature on our chart because he does not sit on the pay committee of any other FT-SE companies. But he has an astonishing range of business interests.

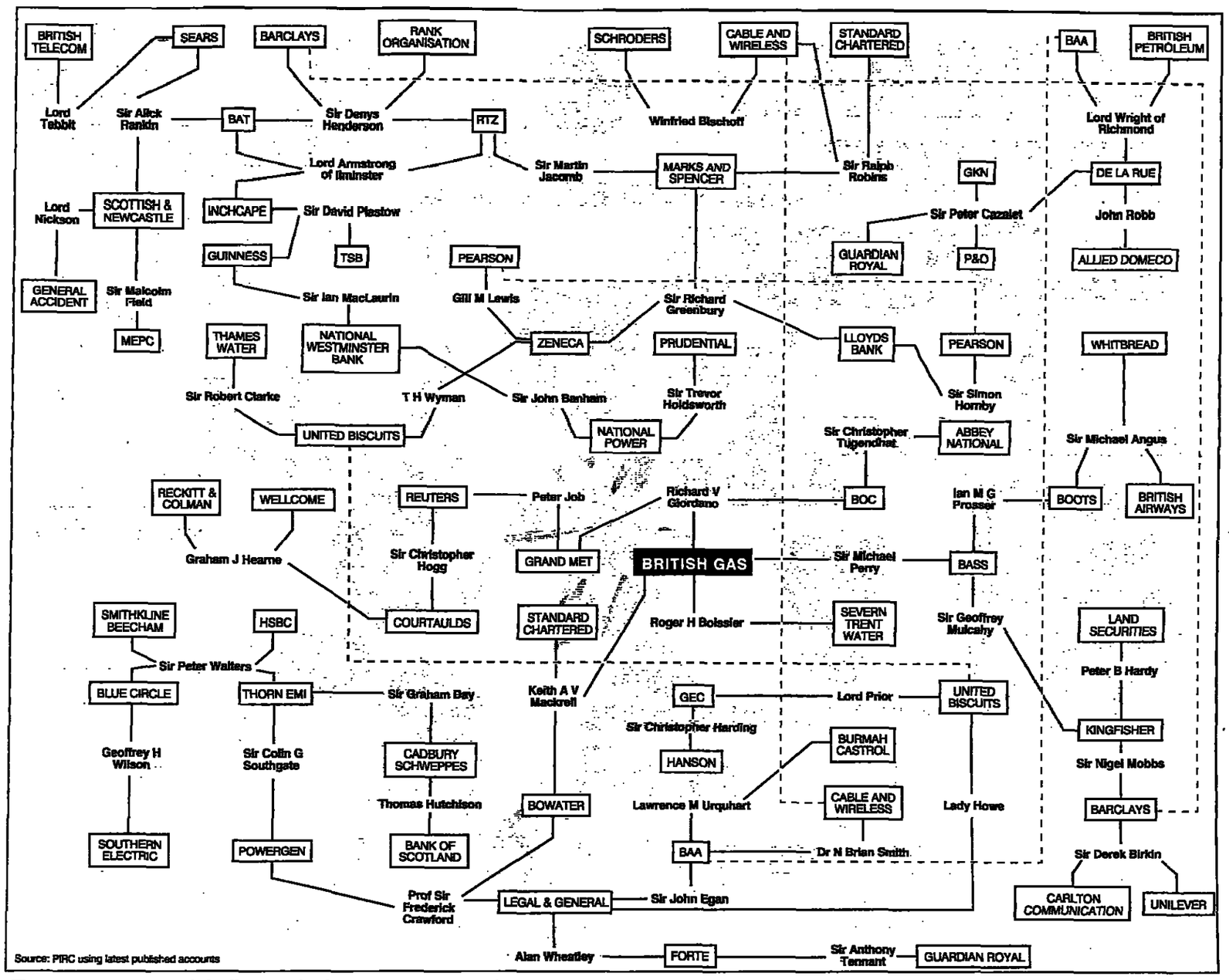
Lord Walker is a former Energy Secretary and Welsh Secretary. Today, he is special adviser to Michael Heseltine, the President of the Board of Trade, on inward investment matters, and chairman of English Partnerships, an Environment Department agency engaged in urban redevelopment. But he is also a director of five other quoted companies, according to the 1995 *Directory of Directors*, and many more that are not.

Stuart Bell, a director of PIRC, says: "The most important aspect of a remuneration committee is how independent it really is." He suggests that the committees are becoming part of the establishment from which they were supposed to stand aloof. "There is now a real danger that they are becoming institutionalised," he says. "The present system is clearly not entirely satisfactory. The tide of opinion is turning towards shareholders having the final say and voting on executive pay." In his view: "The last word should not be with the remuneration committee."

Even the Institute of Directors backs reform. Tim Melville-Ross, Director-General of the Institute, said: "Our view on remuneration committees is that if you are worried about objectivity or the lack of independence is to have full disclosure of the whole remuneration calculation. That means not just publishing full details of what each director earns but also the process which the committee used to arrive at a particular bonus or pay package."

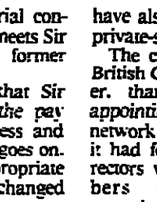
Any such move would be welcome. However, as analysis by *The Times* shows, the benchmark salaries of top executives are decided by committees dominated by a few score senior industrialists and bankers. Can this really provide the objectivity that Sir Adrian sought?

Additional research by Morag Preston



The money merry-go-round: the directors who sit on remuneration committees of companies whose directors return the favour further down the chain linking those who set pay levels

Look not to London but Tokyo for a financial market in crisis



ANTHONY HARRIS

The headlines scream: "Pound plunges", "Waves of selling". It looks like a crisis: but it does not smell like one. What we have in Europe is not a nasty accident, but a programmed event. Sterling should have been on the sidelines: but after Barings made the authorities look only too human, and the latest polls made the Government more than ever moribund, it took next to nothing, in the event a minor resignation, to start a slide. And forget the waves of selling: nobody is buying. This was a markdown.

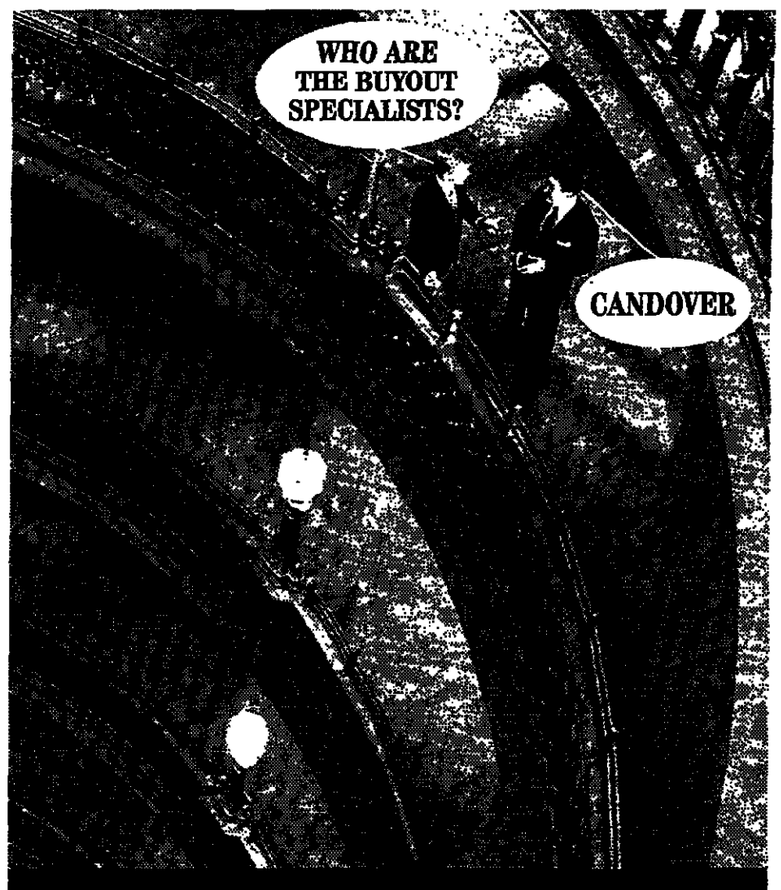
In Europe, the exchange-rate mechanism provides official buyers, so there has indeed been heavy switching into the mark. But the currency market circulars have been warning for months that the ERM would come under severe strain this year, when Germany's domestic policy requirements became uncomfortable for its high-unemployment neighbours — a dilemma that might become insoluble in a single currency area. Their analysis, calling for stress relief in the summer, was right. Their mistake was to forget that markets do not wait for expected events, they anticipate them. Only the franc is still undermined by official support.

So, since the Mexican débâcle, is the dollar, especially against the yen. And this is a genuine crisis. Tokyo has called for an emergency meeting of the Group of Seven, which makes it official; and it is genuine because it is largely unexpected. It has embarrassed not only forecasters and officials who are intervening in vain, but supposedly hard-headed traders. The London banks that were pushed into loss and folly when they borrowed in yen, the New York hedge funds that were caught short, and investors who bought the Nikkei on devaluation prospects have all made the same mistake.

Can hindsight explain what foresight so generally failed to see? Try this on for size. The conventional forecasts looked at all the conventional things: the current account, interest rates, and investors' sentiment. On all counts, the yen should be weak: the current account surplus is past its peak, the official discount rate, at 1.75 per cent, is at an all-time low, and investors were supposed to be turning back to overseas markets. But what these forecasts left out was the state of Japan's banks and financial markets, the two greatest exponents of post-death activity since Dracula.

Unlike the Count, however, they cannot go in search of their blood: they depend on official life-support. The PKO or Price Keeping Operation, which is not officially supposed to exist at all, has channelled about $120 million of private savings in post office accounts into the stock market — funds that might otherwise have gone overseas. Yet this money does not go to industry to support investment or reconstruct balance sheets, because the Ministry of Finance does not allow new issues. It goes simply to bail out the banks, who might have to admit bankruptcy if the value of their equity holdings fell much further. Even this is not enough to raise the undead from their coffins. "It is hard to avoid the conclusion that the financial system is paralysed", said *Nikkei Weekly* last month. "The institutions are atrophying under mounting bad debt burdens". So who keeps things ticking over? The Government, again. Through various intermediaries, it now does half the industrial lending, all the household lending, and buys all the land that is sold in Japan, according to estimates in *Grant's Interest Rate Observer*.

These combined efforts have by now debauched the finances of a government hitherto a model of thrift: this year, on J P Morgan estimates, Japan will be borrowing more than $170 billion (half as much as the US); Kobe reconstruction is an extra. Add it all up, and we have an unplanned fiscal binge on the Reagan scale, combined with a Volcker-scale credit squeeze imposed by paralysed banks. As we know from Reagan days, a fiscal binge combined with a monetary squeeze can drive a currency through the roof. There is no resolution, so this crisis, unlike that in Europe, will run and run.



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Part-timers want equal treatment from employers

BY PHILIP BASSETT
INDUSTRIAL EDITOR

PART-TIME workers overwhelmingly believe employers should treat them equally with full-time staff, according to a survey published yesterday that also shows that part-timers are twice as satisfied with their working patterns as full-time employees.

Union leaders who commissioned the research said it showed clearly the demand among part-timers for equal treatment at work, but employers and ministers are likely to seize upon the high satisfaction levels among part-timers as support for their arguments in favour of a flexible labour market.

Leaders of the Trades Union Congress yesterday launched a new campaign aimed at winning equal rights and equal treatment for part-timers. Union leaders are convinced that more insecure forms of employment, such as part-time work, offer scope for union recruitment and representation. The Government is keen to encourage the growth of part-time work as a central element in its drive for greater flexibility in the labour market.

As part of its campaign, the TUC commissioned NOP, the polling organisation, to survey a representative sample of part-time workers. This showed large-scale dissatisfaction with employer treatment of part-timers. Four out of five part-timers want employers to treat them equally on issues such as holidays, and sick, redundancy and maternity pay, while three-quarters believe they should have the same pension entitlements as full-timers. More than half of those surveyed believe that their employers view them as "second-class staff", the poll findings show, and they feel penalised by being denied access to training and promotion.

But part-timers find the hours they work nearly twice as convenient as full-time work, and they are more than twice as happy as full-timers in the time their job leaves them for family and leisure.

The survey also shows that both full-time and part-time workers largely feel secure in their jobs, with more than 70 per cent in each case satisfied with their job security.

Calling on employers to invest in their part-timers and remove "two-tier" treatment of them, John Monks, the TUC General Secretary, said: "The message from the British public is loud and clear. The Government's deregulatory approach is not delivering flexibility to employees and is denying equal rights to part-time workers."

The unions also revealed new findings on part-timers' pay and employment rights, which they said showed a "shocking" picture of 2.5 million part-timers on "poverty" pay, as well as a growing gap between part-time and full-timer workers over pay and "justice" in the workplace.

Trade union leaders said the findings of the TUC's analyses strengthened their call for a national minimum wage, and for the Government to implement European legal provisions bring part-timer workers in the UK into line with those in the rest of Europe.

TI faces cultural change in aim to be a global player

BY ERIC REGULY

TI GROUP, the manufacturer of seals and landing gear, said it will push hard to develop its international presence by "globalising" some products that have achieved regional success.

Sir Christopher Lewinton, chairman, said the company's main weakness is that many of its best products are not reaching enough international customers. "I'd like to see us accelerate the global marketing of our products," he said.

For example, TI's leakless, or "zero-emission", seals for pumping stations, the first of its kind in the world, are selling well in America and have the potential for strong sales elsewhere, he said.

The effort to make TI a global player will involve a cultural change within the company, which has devoted much more time on engineering than marketing. From now on, product managers will receive sales and marketing training.

Sir Christopher's comments came after TI reported a 22 per cent rise in pre-tax profits to £153 million in 1994. Earnings per share, before exceptional items, rose 18 per cent to 21.4p and turnover was up 7 per cent to £1.42 billion. The final dividend is lifted 7.4 per cent to 7.95p, payable on May 25. This brings the year's total dividend to 12p, compared with 11.25p in 1993.

The results were generally in line with analysts' forecasts. As economic growth continues, they expect TI to report pre-tax earnings of about £170 million in 1995.

The growth of TI's three main businesses — John Crane, Bundy and Dowty Aerospace — in 1994 was achieved without the benefit of acquisitions. All of them reported double-digit increases in profit. The biggest gain came at Bundy, whose pre-tax profits rose 27 per cent to £58.4 million. The company said the buoyant automotive market in the US and an upturn in the European market in the second half of the year were the primary reasons behind of the good results. Bundy, among other things, makes fuel-carrying systems for cars.

Sir Christopher said that both Bundy and John Crane, the seal maker, are candidates for bolt-on acquisitions. Major acquisitions, however, are not being contemplated. "Our core businesses will give us sustained growth," he said.

Dowty Aerospace, which makes landing gear, recorded 6 per cent growth last year despite the general downturn in military orders.

Tempus, page 28

Independent Insurance raises profits by 45%

STRONG growth in the commercial property sector helped Independent Insurance to lift profits by 45 per cent to £23 million in the year to December 31 (Sarah Bagnall writes). Michael Bright, chief executive, said that 1994 had been the group's most successful year to date. "It is our eighth successive year of profitable growth."

The company, which acquired the general insurance book of Aegon UK in September 1994, lifted gross written premiums by 30 per cent to £279.3 million. Underwriting profits rose to £11.8 million from £2 million, partly reflecting the absence of any losses on stop-loss policies underwritten for Lloyd's names that knocked £5.2 million off last year's figure. There was a 70 per cent increase in profits from the UK branch business accounts.

The final dividend, payable on May 31, was lifted from 4.75p to 5.5p, making a total for the year of 9.5p, up from 8.25p last time. Earnings per share rose from 30.6p to 34.3p.


BARRY GREENWOOD

Stephen Bentley, TDG finance director, left, with Alan Cole, chief executive

TDG feels benefits of non-core disposals

BY MARTIN BARROW

A STRONG recovery in profits at Transport Development Group, the distribution and storage company, signalling an end to a period of extensive restructuring, lifted the shares 13p to 197p yesterday.

The company said it had completed the disposal of non-core businesses, with proceeds of £46.6 million exceeding book value, and ended 1994 with net cash of £7.8 million, compared with debts of £20.3 million at the end of the previous year.

Martin Llowarch, chairman, said that with trading conditions improving, TDG "has the financial muscle to grow and improve its results through organic investment and by making selected acquisitions".

Pre-tax profits rose to £33.9 million from £26.9 million. Results benefited from an exceptional credit of £958,000, compared with a charge £7.4 million.

At the operating level, profits eased to £32.9 million, from £34.4 million, on turnover reduced to £496.48 million from £549.6 million. Turnover from retained businesses advanced 5 per cent, in spite of difficult trading conditions.

Distribution activities saw operating profits fall to £8.9 million from £12.5 million, caused by the conclusion of high-margin contracts dating from the 1980s, although, in the second half, UK margins rose to 4.8 per cent from 4.4 per cent. Storage activities were affected by the reduction in European Union food stockpiles, with profits easing to £11.8 million (£12.7 million).

Transport profits rose to £7.6 million from £5.6 million. Hire profits were £7.1 million, compared with £7.4 million, but after allowing for disposals the retained businesses of Cox and Swift increased to £5.8 million from £3.3 million.

Print firm to buy £12m press

Portsmouth and Sunderland Newspapers, the newspaper publishing and printing company with interests in convenience store retailing, has conditionally agreed to acquire a new printing press for its subsidiary, Northeast Press, for £12.6 million.

The new Sunderland press is expected to be operational in late 1996, subject to shareholders' approval for the investment at an extraordinary meeting convened on April 5.

The board is also considering a new press for the operation in Hartlepool as part of a £3 million project that would include redevelopment of the site.

Parity ahead

Parity, the information technology company formerly known as Comac, earned profits of £4.2 million before tax in 1994. In the previous 12 months losses were £228,000 before tax. Earnings were 7.19p a share, compared with losses of 1.88p. There is a final dividend of 1p a share, payable on July 6, making 1.75p for the year (1.5p). The shares were unchanged at 115p, against the placing price of 125p.

Beales debut

Beales, one of the largest unquoted stores groups in Britain, is to seek a stock market listing, with an expected capitalisation of about £20 million. The company, with headquarters in Bournemouth, operates six department stores, mainly on the South Coast. In the year to October 31 pre-tax profits were £2.88 million (£1.99 million). First day of dealings is next Monday. A net dividend of 5.9p a share is forecast for the year to October 31, 1995.

Baltic rises

Baltic, the asset finance company, lifted pre-tax profits to £7.79 million last year from £4.38 million in 1993, helped by the release of bad debt provisions, higher margins on non-recourse financing and higher management fees. The final dividend is lifted to 2p a share from 1p, payable on April 28, doubling the total payment to 3p from 1.5p. Earnings rose to 16.2p a share from 8p. The company said net asset value rose to 153p a share from 134p.

Kalon agrees on Euridep merger

BY COLIN NARBROUGH

KALON GROUP, the Leyland paint company based in West Yorkshire, has agreed to merge with Euridep, the paint arm of Total, the French oil and chemicals group, and list the new Anglo-French alliance on the London Stock Exchange.

Total, which will be the dominant partner, with at least 51 per cent of the new company, is a leading paint supplier in France and has important paint operations in Britain, including the Manders business it acquired last year.

Kalon shares surged before the merger announcement, gaining 33p to 139p. The deal, subject to a waiver from the takeover panel to Total having to make a full cash offer to Kalon shareholders, foresees the French company, after the merger, offering to acquire 44,633,743 Kalon shares at 140p each, representing a third of Kalon's existing ordinary shares.

Before the offer, a Fr494 million (£61 million) cash injection by Total would give it approximately 51 per cent of the new company. Depending on the outcome of its post-merger offer, its holding could rise to 65 per cent.

Mike Hennessey, managing director of Kalon, said: "The coming together of the two companies will result in a large and efficient group well equipped to compete in European markets and to enhance shareholder value."

Kalon will pay a special dividend of 10p net, while Euridep will pay a special dividend of Fr30 million.

For 1994 Kalon earned a record pre-tax profit, up 5 per cent at £19.6 million. A 3p final dividend makes a 4.5p total, up 7 per cent.

Thorntons' customers trade down

BY SUSAN GILCHRIST

TRADING down by consumers over Christmas held back progress at Thorntons, the chocolate maker and retailer, in the first half. Pre-tax profits edged up to £9.62 million from £9.58 million in the 28 weeks to January 7.

John Thornton, chairman, said the same number of customers came through the doors, but bought cheaper, loose chocolates, rather than boxes. As a result, like for like UK sales slipped 1.2 per cent. Mr Thornton said part of the blame lay with the advertising campaign, and he believes the problems will not recur.

French losses increased due to the disposal of the ice cream business. Performance was also hit by hot summer weather. A total of 37 new UK outlets were opened and a further 14 refitted. The refurbished stores produced sales increases of up to 22 per cent. The interim is up to 1.50p (1.45p).

Optimism at Brent Chemicals

BY MARTIN BARROW

BRENT CHEMICALS said it has experienced problems in passing on raw material price increases to customers in all areas of its business. However, the company said it expected to make progress in the current year through efficiency gains and cost containment, combined with organic growth.

Pre-tax profits rose to £8 million in 1994 from £7.14 million in the previous year in spite of difficult trading conditions affecting the industrial division, where profits fell to £4.1 million from £5.1 million.

Management changes were implemented in America to stem a reversal and the business started to rebuild sales and profits in the second half. Earnings were 6.1p a share, compared with losses of 1.8p. A final dividend of 2.6p a share, payable on April 24, makes 4.2p for the year, up from 4p.

MIDWEEK RENDEZVOUS 0171 481 4000

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LADIES

AMERICAN lady, 30, still getting acquainted with London is looking to meet a man who is kind/hearted and very intelligent. I am a Christian, educated and well travelled, striking, 5'7" and slim, athletic, caring, sometimes shy, talented, creative and the lucky Mommy of a precious little girl. Hoping I've said just enough.... My box number is 4191.

ARE you serious but fun? Are you generally interested in what's going on? Do you like being out of doors? Tall slim attractive d. hatrod W. Berks female, 40s, would like to meet you. Reply to Box No 4211

ATTRACTIVE professional lady 50 retiring seeks educated gentleman who values music, walking, travel, bridge, home and garden. London/Essex. Please Reply to Box No 4207

ATTRACTIVE Indian of W.Indies origin prof. lady WLTM genuine Engl/Euro, gent aged 40-50 for a fun/romance & forever. London.Photo plse.Box 4310

ATTRACTIVE mid 40's Surrey lady WLTM intelligent grad. 35-45, 5'10+ for romance & skiing. Photo please.Box 4315

BIRMINGHAM'S most eligible young lady (38) beautiful, tall, slim, solvent, stylish, effervescent wishes to marry and have children. Box No 4234

BLONDE (30), blue-eyed slut with 2 DR 10's seeks the equivalent. Serious smoker, enjoys alcohol and opera. Photo and phone no to Box No 4309

DATING Agencies are an anathema to me and I cannot believe I am writing this, but here goes. Widowed, 2 years ago and the wrong side of 50. I am finally bored with television, bridge and lunches. I am physically, mentally and financially sound. Friendship required, with a witty, healthy bon vivant. Are you out there. Errol flynn? London/S.E. Please Reply to Box No 4136

DELICIOUSLY Alive. Slim vivacious redhead 40's divorcee seeks absolutely charming sweet-tached successful businessman 45-55. If you are out there, zoom up the A3 to Esher? Please Reply to Box No 4140

DYED blonde (42) with long legs, hair, creativity and imagination seeks like-minded smoking, drinking, fast living, high earning achiever who fits the above T/shirt and would like to take it off! Photo and phone no to Box No 4298

HAPPY, attractive, female Foreign affairs journalist, needs confident man 40-55 to share life and laughter. I love the sea, countryside, travel, cinema, music, crazy cars and quiet times at home in London. And you? Reply to Box No 4129

HAPPY sophisticated prof widow 45 WLTM p/s successful solvent man 50-70 to enjoy elegant lifestyle.London.Box 4160

REFORMED wild child 36 green-eyed blonde looking for a real man 35-45 fit unconventional and young at heart. Photo essential. London. Box No 4169

S. COUNTIES sporty country lady late 50's fin. secure enjoys country pursuits sailing home & family life many interests seeks similar man to share & enjoy a social life. Late 50's early 60's each Weeks. Box No 4361

SPECIAL Caring, tall, sophisticated lady with GSOH loves countryside. Lived abroad, v. lit. interests incl skiing, sailing, walking, music. Seeks caring, true English gentleman 52+. Midlands or near. Photo app.Reply Box No 4176

STARTING over. Divorced 43, blonde, slim, 5'7". Media professional. 2 children. Seeks tall, attractive, confident, successful man. Late 30's/40's. For meals out and movies and more if the chemistry is right. Herts, Bucks/London. Photo app. Please Reply to Box No 4247

VERY attractive vivacious Latin fun-loving female 40 petite intelligent passionate Honest romantic successful confident petite slimline but rather Special English gentleman 5'9"-6" tall YOGOH well-spoken & solvent for caring relationship. Photo appreciated & confidentiality assured. Reply Box No 4363

GENTLEMEN

CARDIFF entrepreneur, 34, tall, dark and handsome. A graduate and MBA, with varied international business interests. Very fit, enjoys training and working out. Likes good food and good company, current affairs and foreign travel. Would like to meet an attractive lady 20-30ish, sophisticated, intelligent and confident. Reply to Box No 4193

CHESHIRE based party 30's tall slim youthful successful professional gent enjoys many interests including golf would ideally like to meet an attractive elegant intelligent lady to her 40's to share some interests and/or quality time together and to build a special relationship. Photo appreciated. ALA Please Reply to Box No 4102

CULTURED prof man, interested in travel, classical music, the arts, writing and dining, bridge. Seeks lively, unattached lady 45+ for companionship. Marriage if compatible. London /S.E. Photo app. Please Reply to Box No 4279

DOCTOR 35 WLTM attractive educated lively lady GSOH for romance.Any nationality / area.Photo if poss.Box No 4268

DO YOU KNOW an English woman, single 40's, who is slender, attractive, warmly affectionate, and who loves Handel and Bach? This American gentleman, a n/s, in his late 60's, WLTM a marriage partner with whom he can share beautiful music and a beautiful life built upon companionship, friendship and romantic love. Prefer to live in England. Letter and photo please to Box No 4249

GENTLEMAN seeks lady to share social life in Cheshire p/s, GSOH. Intelligent, fond of curry.Reply to Box No 4119

GENUINE, caring, solvent, good looking single male a successful farmer in Lincs, early forties. Seeks Country loving female 28-38 for pos. relationship. Must be attractive with nice legs, sincere, stylish & loving. Reply with photo plse.Box 4253

HOME ALONE? North-west male, young 52, of appearance, optimistic outlook on life, humorous but not too gregarious, V.solvent, seeks slim, quiet natured lady to create a home for 2. Photo appreciated. Please Reply to Box No 4196

LET'S begin at Gatwick. Graduate 34 seeks lady travelling companion for a wander by city through U.S.A. maybe through life also. I am quiet, enjoy travel, classic books & am a passionate photographer. N.S. unimportant. Box No 4266

RECENTLY retired divorcee WLTM an Oriental or Asian lady for romance and companionship based on mutual respect. London/S.E. Photo app.Reply to Box No 4286

THE TIMES cannot guarantee that respondents will receive a reply when answering advertisements on this page, although we hope that as a matter of courtesy they will. When making contact with people for the first time it is advisable to meet in a public place and let a member of your family or a trusted friend know where you will be.

We would advise readers and advertisers to exercise caution when giving out personal details. This will be respected by genuine respondents.

VERY successful professional guy intelligent passionate. Elegant lifestyle good physique seeks attractive good-natured lady 30+ for wonderful times. London area. Photo preferred. Please Reply to Box No 4246

WIDOWER, highly eligible, presentable, young 55+, loves rather shy Establishment girl 30's, n.s., for loving, happy, active family life in village. Be brave - nobody lived happy. Cautious telephoning first. Please Reply to Box No 4210

MANAGING DIRECTOR 39 very attractive, North West, WLTM, very attractive lady with style and GSOH for long-term relationship. Photograph please. Reply to Box No 4042

REMARKABLE 43 good looking 5'7" own business athletic fit house in country seeks slim attractive lady 25-40 Cheshire. Photo assures reply.Box 4043

SAILOR - Leaves mid Summer in own yacht for leisurely World Cruise (2-3 yrs). Seeks F. companion for longer relationship? Min 40, blond, tempted, hobbies, educated, open, romantic & tough enough for life. You: 30-45 and sizzling.Box No 4084

SOMEWHERE hopefully there is a delightful, good-looking, vivacious, n/s, lady with a lovely smile who is active and enjoys life to the full. GSOH, a little sophistication touched with elegance, style and panache with the right chemistry will bring back that real sparkle and a new meaning into a lasting relationship, full of affection and TLC, encompassing romance, music, theatre, dancing, countryside, walking, travel, occ. bridge and golf, with a presentable n/s active, retired Cheshire executive widower with no ties. Very young-looking mid 60's, slim build, 5'6", who would appreciate a genuine reply with a recent photo from genuinely lady.Please Reply Box No 4008

TYPICAL Taurean: tall, solvent designer, P.L.C. Director, 37, Clapham/Chelsea based. Energetic optimist, into opera, golf, cricket, work, occasional unfashionable hopeless. Getting broody, seeking partner. You are probably petite, probably shy, probably pretty, future tradesmanship a bit A-grade life-guaranteed.Please reply with photo. Box No 3996

ECLECTIC Pisces (single dad) seeks tall, slim lady, late 20's, n/s, self-assured, adaptable, to share caring moments, quiet home, interest in arts. Please Reply to Box No 3994

GENTLEMAN bachelor good-looking 48yrs old 6ft tall broad shouldered well-spoken educated & unattached. Nice Surrey home with grounds. Enjoys country-side cars antique fairs cooking shopping home-life & have varied interests. Have tons of TLC. My downfall was the fast-paced Seeks attract lady similar age or older for permanent companionship/relationship. ALA. Reply to Box No 4088

GOOD-LOOKING fit man 44 seeks attractive p/s intelligent sophisticated lady lady. Janet Reger & Emotional London. Photo and reply please to Box No 4001

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THE TIMES

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Utilities drag market lower

TRADING PERIOD: Settlement takes place ten business days after the day of trade. Changes are calculated on the previous day's close, but adjustments are made when a stock is ex-dividend. Changes, yields and price/earnings ratios are based on middle prices.

BANKS

1994/95 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
523	380	Abbey Nat	440	+1	5.2	9.2
314	233	Allied Irish	288	–	5.5	10.0
278	171	Anz New Z	213	–	5.3	7.8
3900	2462	Bank Americ	2875	–62		
247	172	Bank Scotland	196	–1	3.4	11.1
849	497	Barclays	582	–23	4.6	8.7
319	248	Bk of Ireland	302		4.8	
2312	2262	Citicorp	2301	+31		
385	203	Close Bros	338	+3	4.2	10.6
2150	2121	Commercial	2150	+268	5.8	
1296	993	Dn Ich Kan Y	1140	+28	0.5	
2449	2270	Deutsche Bk	2316	+566	2.3	
1315	6482	Esperito Sante	6630	+61	11.6	
90	57	First Nat Finl	77	+3	2.6	46.0
1548	1152	Fuji Bank Y	1283	+36	0.4	
473	206	Hambros	268	–	3.4	26.1
1113	988	HSBC	1026	–	5.8	12.6
1133	978	HSBC Hk	1025		5.6	7.6
443	388	Joseph (L)	388		5.7	11.3
1883	924	Kleinwort Benf	1569	–16	4.8	10.9
668	519	Lloyds	585	–2	5.7	9.5
620	472	Nat Aust Bk	479		7.9	8.4
922	421	Nat Westy	476	–5	7.6	8.4
3300	2100	Ottoman Bank	2375		9.1	5.7
76	58	Rea Bros	58		2.8	16.2
528	373	Rpt Bk Scot	401	–11	4.3	11.5
1574	1050	Schroders	1403	–17	1.6	12.8
1458	1043	Schroders NV	1278	–12	1.8	11.7
114	75	Singer & Fried	83	–3	4.9	9.8
3599	2233	Standd Chart	2475	–37	4.7	10.7
1977	1317	TSB	1729	–34	4.9	12.4
1012	569	Wagon Ind	679	–12	4.7	
8105	6612	Wells Fargo	9737	–63	2.9	
260	194	Westpac	215		6.2	14.4
330	203	Wintrust	215		6.2	

BREWERIES

1025	145	Ascot Hldgs	148			
619	485	Bass	548	–10	5.3	12.2
299	238	Boddingtons	247		4.6	12.4
196	168	Border'd Brw	170		5.3	13.6
181	145	Burtonwood	176		5.7	12.5
96	66	Greene King	96	–3	3.1	18.9
468	335	Folk Sw 'A'	343		2.9	13.6
511	399	Greenalls Grp	488	–2	4.1	14.7
564	452	Greene King	472		3.5	12.8
367	298	Hardy Hanson	356	–4	4.5	12.5
176	135	Inspirerace	156			36
3773	3125	Irish J	3500		2.8	18.6
248	195	Marstield	230		3.5	14.2
314	256	Mason Thmp	289		2.8	13.1
545	430	Morland	490	–15	3.1	12.9
19	8½	Paramount	9½		4.6	15.9
329	269	Regent Inns	269		2.2	18.8
1695	1000	SA Breweries	1481		5.6	23.9
991	477	Scot & Newc	952	–4	4.4	14.1
308	212	Vaux Group	214	–1	5.6	12.1
361	324	Watrsprsqm JD	476	+1	1.7	26.2
617	494	Wellhseread	556	–3	4.6	14.4
588	483	Wolverhmptn D	498	–1	3.6	12.7
248	148	Yates Bros	201		2.4	15.9
535	456	Young 'A'	460		4.1	19.5

BUILDING & CONSTRUCT

205	130	Abbey	130		5.0	9.5
200	143	Allen	153	–4	4.6	14.3
164	96	Amec	64	–3	5.9	36.9
167	67	Andrews Sykes	166			
462	333	Ashtead	417		1.7	17.8
191	97	Avgrande	97	–1	5.7	11.4
41	26	Bailey (Geo) Con	35		2.5	21.4
88	189	Barcon	37	–1		
298	139	Barratt Devs	164	+1	4.6	12.7
169	122	Beazer Homes	126	+1	5.4	8.9
1080	619	Bellway	1116	–2	4.8	10.9
59	27	Bellwinch	27		0.9	14.5
357	252	Bestwy Sy	324		2.8	10.3
215	116	Bett Bros	177		3.2	9.4
210	158	Blott (Henry)	203		3.8	10.8
235	125	Bovis Hldgs	135		2.8	16.2
1574	1050	Br Bldg & Eng	1125		8.2	16.9
1458	1043	Bryant	113		5.8	10.7
145	98	CALA	105		3.3	14.5
94	24	Campbell & Arm	38			
83	44	Cattle I	44		3.2	41.6
17	7	Cawoe	16½	–		17.7
185	85	Countryside	89		6.1	10.9
139	73	Crest Nicholson	76		3.3	
140	80	Cussons	88		4.8	10.6
90	54	Edward Hldgs	58		4.9	9.5
478	233	Eng Countr	233	–2	5.9	9.5
60	24	Galliard	27		4.7	
112	86	Gibbs & Dandy	87		3.9	
1098	823	Gleeson (MJ)	863		2.1	14.8
86	71	Green (Eng)	83		0.0	25.6
197	122	Hardwick Conv	157		3.8	17.1
138	98	Hawden-Stuart	148	+1	2.5	17.1
144	83	Hegg & Hill	83		3.6	
17	7	Holland Hldgs	17	–1	5.9	15.9
6	5	Ishrus	6			
1035	636	Laing	916		4.5	12.2
1035	636	Laing (J)	1000	+2	6.0	17.0
164	85½	Laing 6 4% Cv Pf	86		9.3	
115	105	Lin Clydesde	117		5.7	
173	36	Lovell (YJ)	38		3.3	4.7
255	195	Maunders (J)	195	–3	5.5	11.7
521	154	McAlpine (A)	156	+1	5.2	22.7
78½	48	McCarthy & S	48½			17.1
64	51	Morgan Sndall	53		2.1	18.8
185½	88	Mowlem (J)	88	–1	2.8	
2579	163	Persimmon	168		6.8	12.6
2460	1450	Pochins	2000		5.0	20.0
196	102	Prowting	107		4.2	16.3
116	44½	Raine Ind	47		0.0	9.8
61	45	Secure Retrn	47			15.2
132	90	Redrow	96	+2	3.4	11.5
97	50	Sarbid-Pye	50		1.7	25.9
388	233	Sherrd Hldgs	365	–4	2.9	15.2
112	61½	Shorco A	61		5.1	12.5
245	195	Smart (J)	200		5.2	21.5
230	159	Spandon	200		1.1	22.5
257	151	Tay Homes	167		3.7	20.8
183	114	Taylor Woodrw	118	–1	1.8	28.1
780	438	Tilbury Dougls	444		9.4	13.6
59	34	Tomkns Hmv	51		3.1	18.6
129	96	Tr Cmnty	129	–2	3.9	
170	105	Walkrnaves	105	–2	5.8	11.3
74	48	Ward Hldgst	54		3.4	
228½	125	Westbury	195	+1	5.4	11.4
7½	3½	Wilgrove	3½			
258	134	Wilson (C)	137		4.2	10.6
371	306	Wilson Bowdn	308		3.9	13.7
249	113	Wimpey G	121	+2	5.9	14.5

BUILDING MATERIALS

27	12	Abingdon	12		5.2	20.3
343	283	Aamscot	336		2.5	16.8
65	43	Ashtenkey Gp	54		3.3	24.7
361	274	BPB Ind	348	–2	3.7	14.6
163	118	Baggeridge Brk	125		3.2	14.8
101	58	Bardon	91		1.8	
95	58	Blackfrys	80		1.8	
391	255	Blue Circle	287	–6	5.3	18.0
117	72	Brendon PLC	73		2.1	20.8
128	81	Br Dredging	102		3.9	16.8
409	321	Cmt	345	–5	2.9	
70	31	Caledonian Roy	41			4.4
278	198	Cape	208		6.6	13.2
285	228	Caradon	248		5.6	13.9
215	112	Chester pl	129	–2	7.5	
82	46	Clarkson Gp	77		7.7	18.1
134	88	Dyson (J&J)†	107		4.1	16.1
97	63	Dyson 'A'†	64		6.8	9.6
13	4	Edgcr Blocks	5			
260	223	Epwin	229		3.5	16.5
528	373	Ibstn	373		2.8	34.3
216	150	Ibstock Grp	170	+1	3.9	
389	312	Hanson Ltd	319		2.9	14.7
311	273	Hepworth	274	–1	3.3	13.9
98	65	Hewetsont	65		3.1	
1524	1094	Hoard Ltd	1094		6.7	14.1
319	246	Heyrd Wire	251		6.7	
168	107	Ibstock	126	–1	4.2	14.9
294	149	Johnston	151		6.7	32.5
178	118	Lafarge	133		4.5	
1658	1238	Marley	1326	–1	4.2	14.9
139	124	Marshalls†	125		4.5	11.1
2973	2297	Mever Int	2970	–37	4.5	11.5
196	146	Newman Tnks	164		4.8	20.7
27	9	Norcros	11		11.1	15.0
9	3	Pevensy Timber	16			
143	143	Pilkington	164	–2	3.0	31.6
185	122	Polypipe	146	–1	3.4	14.4
1079	865	RMC Gp	946	–5	2.8	19.6
546	415	Redland	435	–10	7.4	19.7
112	70	Rexte	111		4.6	13.6
185	109	Rugby Group	109		3.2	18.3
139	98	Russell (A)	98		3.1	18.2
3300	2100	SIG	2100	+1	2.4	
195	155	SWP	155	–2½	1.6	
230	155	Sharpe & Fisher	175		3.1	12.8
207	36	Spring Ram	36		1.4	
209	166	Tarmac	166	–1	6.5	
218	155	Tilon	155	–3	3.6	13.5
374	274	Travis Perkins	278		3.7	17.2
28	11	Tyzack	11		11	
1	1	Ungroup	1			
1	1	Warehouse	1			
183	103	Wickes	103	+1	2.2	18.4
467	332	Wimpey	332	–14	3.1	13.1

BUSINESS SERVICES

34	1½	Anglo Dut	1½			
116	57	App Holo	65		5.3	
165	107	Abwoods	118			
11	7¼	Bailey (CH)	7¼		9.2	6.7
30	16	Black Arrow	16			86.4
124	78	Br Bloodstock	74			19.0
15	5½	Cabd Gp	6		2.1	18.8
9	4½	Chemrex	4½			7.1
157	103	Cossill	140		7.1	9.4
237	188	Filofax	224		2.9	33.3
50	28	Hemdale	29			12.5
284	204	Hemlock	251	–1	6.5	14.0
2468	1458	Leigh	2227		3.4	14.7
274	214	Nobo Grf	253		2.7	21.6
310	207	Photo-Mat	54		4.1	
60	38	Plant & Gen	46		4.6	13.7
12½	7½	Perm Group	8½			
51	31	Radione	31	½		
97	74	Shanks & McEwan	75		3.5	
258	163	Sinclair (Wm)	163		5.5	12.4
700	298	Waste Mgt Ind	298	–12		

DISTRIBUTORS

127	95	ABI Lec	95		5.3	11.0
317	248	Acal	294		3.0	15.9
585	353	Adam & Harvey	545		3.5	9.8
31	19	Alexander	19		0.5	
173	89	Appleyard	93		7.8	16.4
6	3¼	Asc Br Eng	4¼		1.5	20.3
578	495	BSS Group	536		4.3	18.7
52½	17	Blooming Power	21		6.0	10.8
405	245	Bleichney Mtr	250		6.0	10.2
40	28	Bogod 'A'	28		3.1	11.3
370	288	Brammer	350		4.6	19.4
31	12	Bridgend Gp	14		1.8	72.8
89	78	Brit Fittings	84		3.8	
71	36	Brown & Tawse	39			
57	35	Brundene	39			
465	245	Caltyre	250		5.7	41.1
59	12	Cadec Plc	16½		1.8	9.1
190	66	Central Mkt	66	–5	5.2	43.9
51	32½	Cook (DC)	35		4.1	10.7
342½	197½	Cowie	244	–1½	4.7	
192½	127	Dag Mssm	133		6.1	15.3
57	35	Dennhms El	588		1.4	14.5
636	414½	Diploma	420		4.0	14.7
589	443	Electrocomps	498		2.6	20.4
173	130	Electron Houses	156		2.8	13.1
283	225	Ellis & Everard	246		4.8	16.9
234	193	Evered&Co	226		5.5	15.1
173	94	European Ma	94	–1	6.0	10.2
539½	369	Evans Halshaw	369	–1	5.4	11.6
666	469½	Farnell Elect	544	–3	1.8	22.3
78	59	Fife Indmar	59		6.5	7.8
34	15	Gardener	15			4.9
46	16	Glencheran	16			17.7
90	60	Gowrings	71		3.5	21.5
76	59	Hallen Hldgs	63			49.2
172	122	Harris (Philip)	168		5.1	14.7
342½	258	Hanbys	283		3.8	
191	88	Holders Tech	89		2.2	9.6
138	98	ISA Int	98		2.2	12.4
608	388	Inchcape	391	+1	6.2	10.0
47	35	Jacks (Wm)	38			13.4
184	142	Kwik-Fit	144		5.6	25.8
573	377	Lex Service	395		4.1	15.2
282	182	Lookers	172		5.6	9.2
30	14	Mabeyd Grp	14			
9	3½	Middlesbrro ●	7			
440	279	Norbain	380		0.7	17.8
100	47	Northernbsr	88	–1	1.8	37.4
215	152	PCT	152		6.1	14.7
310	225	Pennington	237	+1	4.1	14.9
238	126	Perry Gp	126		6.9	15.5
216	126	Quads Group	135		4.9	14.2
166	97	REA	163		4.6	33.7
54	24	Reece	52			
42	24	Ross Gp	24			
42	35½	SEP Indst	39½		3.3	
57	35	SIS Range	40		3.1	16.1
465	245	Time Products	327		4.6	15.3
221	153	Vardy (Reg)	178		3.7	13.1
335	240	Wholesale Fgnr	243		6.0	21.7
39½	13½	Wells Gp	14½		4.3	8.1
147½	39½	Wickes	39½		1.9	23.8
98	37½	Wyko	66	+9½	1.9	33.6
98	61	Young (H)	75		6.0	14.0

DIVERSIFIED INDUSTRIALS

202	148	Advnce	156		6.0	15.9
380	198½	Ambsbgsscs	248	–5	1.8	20.1
62	43½	Armour	43½		5.3	9.0
997	773½	Bolton Hld	808		2.4	17.8
401	273	BTR	395	–1½	3.1	18.1
570	372	BAT	411	–9½	6.3	10.9
220½	170½	Berisford Intl	219	–3	0.3	58.0
91	49	Bisby (J)	81		4.6	15.0
57	44	Bramley Inv	44½		5.4	8.9
536	536½	Charrin	753	+20	3.2	22.1
285	212	Cookson	217	+1	3.7	19.6
382	217½	Hanson	232½		6.5	10.4
220	136	Hawtin Cnsld	139	–1	8.1	15.8
3650	2004	Hsce Whtmg	2502½	+10½	2.1	18.6
710	499½	Jardine Mtsn	499½	+2½	2.1	18.6
36	27½	Jourdan (T)	29		4.3	39.8
175	124½	Lowndes	148	–3	4.8	25.7
44	16	Porter Chadbrn	41			
6850	452	Powell Duffryn	453	–2	8.9	12.7
184	118½	Ranger	118		5.8	16.5
488	337	Rathmore	453		5.3	12.0
34½	9½	Saltire	15			10.7
183½	105	Sime Darby	140		3.1	17.8
267	184	Staveley	185		6.4	50.8
230	148	Tate	220		1.4	
388	239	TT Group	372	–2	2.4	
283	202	Tomkins	281		4.2	14.8
124	56½	Trafalgar Hse	56½	–4½	2.1	
1548	1139	Vitec	1139		3.3	18.4
34	15	Wagon Ind	27		1.9	23.8
75	61	Wassall	61		6.0	14.0

ELECTRICITY

884	575	East Midlands	686	–156	5.8	25.0
886	636	Eastern Elect	686	–183	5.3	13.0
1020	636	London Elect	686	–183	5.3	13.0
1013	773	Manweb	686	–183	5.3	13.0
886	547	Midlands Elect	686	–119	5.8	9.5
1020	604½	National Power	686	–183	4.4	12.0
1036	636	Northern Elec	686	–158	4.6	9.3
1021	636	Nthn Ireland	686	–183	4.6	10.1
877	547	Norweb	686	–135	4.6	10.1
886	548	Powergen	686	–183	4.6	9.8
437	305½	Hydro-Elect	384	–53	5.1	9.8
486	311	Scottish Power	374	–156	5.1	9.9
1040	799	Seeboard	686	–183	5.0	9.3
912	591	Sth Wales	686	–183	5.0	8.3
1089	551	Sth Western	686	–183	5.0	8.6
948	548	Southern Elect	686	–183	5.0	11.4
955	604½	Yorkshire Elec	686	–186	5.2	11.4

ELECTRONIC & ELECT

389	63	Acorn Comp	87½	–		
268	47½	Aimtrol	268	–		161
2560	163	Alza	2560	–		
2560	170½	Amstrad	2560	–		
39	24	Arlen	39	–		
91	77	Arlec	91	–		
291	118	Aston	291	–		
2560	2362	BICC	2560	–		
2560	1636	Baker Hughes	2560	–		
2560	1636	Barnsley Bus	2560	–		
2560	1636	Bibby	2560	–		
2560	1636	Boothcrne	2560	–		
2560	1636	Bolton (AF) 'A'	2560	–		
2560	1636	CML Micro	2560	–		
2560	1636	Chemrex Hdgs	2560	–		
2560	1636	Chloride	2560	–		
2560	1636	Clarkwhite	2560	–		
2560	1636	Cognosnt	2560	–		
2560	1636	Coles Elect	2560	–		
2560	1636	Crackley	2560	–		
2560	1636	Dartrix Br Sec	2560	–		
2560	1636	Delta	2560	–		
2560	1636	Dowmort	2560	–		
2560	1636	Dowding Mnts	2560	–		
1635	1220	Druce	1550	–		
3750	2300	Electronic W	3450	–34½		
2560	1636	Emess	2560	–		
4040	3230	Ericsson 'B'	3484	–6½		
60	56	Eurocport	54	–		
451	343	Euromarket	451	–		
416	334	Fidtwy Grtcs	386	–		
283	188	Fornard Gp	283	–		
58	34½	Fornard Tech	58	–		
2560	1636	Gec	2560	–		
191	102	Gestetner	116	–		
191	119	Gressby	119	–		
183	121	Ind Comml	121	–		
2560	1636	Kenwood App	2560	–		
1300	730	Kentronix (Ayr	1300	–		
116	38	Kode	38	–		
2560	1636	LPA Ind	2560	–		
2560	1636	MTL Inst	2560	–		
291	210	Manser-Sarl	264	–		
45	31	Micromtrx	31	–		
494	185	Mitel	291	–		
98	69	Polar Systems	69	–		
74	74	Penn	74	–		
2175	1400	Philips Lmp Hr	2175	+35		
2560	1636	Pilcrot	2560	–		
344	225	Pilco 'A' Vtg†	316	–		
2560	1636	Prestwick	2560	–		
181	181	Psion	181	–		
2560	1636	Racal Elec	2560	–		
53	33	Redamec	53	–		
2560	1636	Reckons	2560	–		
2560	1636	Scantronic	2560	–		
104	98	Sthrn Elec	104	–		
2560	1636	Sthrn Sound	2560	–		
2560	1636	Soundtracket	2560	–		
2560	1636	Stim Sys	2560	–		
2560	1636	TDA Comms	2560	–		
3225	2260½	TDK	2760	+35		
447	174½	Tadpole Tech	217	–		
170	66	Telemetrix	66	–		
191	91	Tib	91	–		
365	191	Telspec	191	–		
246	133	Thorpe Fw	226	–2		
143	117	TLG	143	–		
2560	1636	Total Systems	2560	–		
2560	1636	Transtn	2560	–		
397	256	Unitech	377	+1		
15	8	Verity	8	–		
483	369	Vitec	369	–1		
2560	1636	Waterscreen	2560	–		
2560	1636	Watscott	164	–		

ENGINEERING

187	119	Abbtt	186	–		
215	138	APV	187½	–2	8.1	
128	73	ASW	128	–	4.1	
73	27½	Alvis	73	–		
175	134	Ash & Lacy	135½	–	5.0	14.0
553	490	Aust Equip	553	–	5.0	18.4
125	66	Avesham Metal	130	–	1.6	14.7
40½	36	Babcock	40½	–		7.5
178	128	BMI	128	–	6.5	19.6
86	64	Baynes (Charles)	84	+3	2.6	21.5
86	69	Beaubrn	81	–1		
29	23	Bellhouse	23			
110	80	Bellway Ld	110		2.1	21.4
262	202	Bellzenny	262			
33	23	Bodycote	31½		3.2	
61	43	Booth Inds	45	–3	4.6	13.7
39	12½	Brecknell	14½			
171	120	Bridon	148		3.4	
578½	386½	Br Aerospace	472	+5	2.3	19.2
172½	121½	Br Steel	153½		2.3	18.5
125	86½	Bromsgrve Ind	88		1.0	39.0
16½	9½	Brooks Toolf	9½			
91	54½	Bspoke	54½			
186	135	Bulkington	158		4.6	16.3
88	55	Burnfield	80		4.4	
22	14	CH Group	15	–1	3.5	
268	241	Carclo Engr	245		3.3	14.9
169	110	Castings	151		5.6	9.5
180	150	Chamblion Hld	150		3.7	15.7
334	272	Chesnara	334		3.2	
205½	175	Clyde Blowers	177		3.2	
3987	2355	Cobham	3987	–1	3.2	15.3
508	403	Cohen (A)	508		0.8	
178	178	Concentric	178	–1	4.3	14.0
216	216	Cook (Wm)	216		4.3	10.3
398	398	Dowd Brown	304		4.8	14.4
99	88	Dobson Park	99		6.8	12.6
340	340	EIS	340	–2	4.6	13.7
107	69	Elliott (B)	97		2.7	13.9
118	60	Expamet	90		3.6	65.8
141	135	FKI	141	+1	3.7	16.3
148	105	Fenner	131	–1	1.4	61.0
45	17	Fenton	17			
73	73	GEI Int	87	–1	3.5	15.9
141	91	Garton Eng	120		4.8	14.4
404	265	Glynwed	304	–2	4.8	17.8
14½	10	Graystoke	10		2.5	10.1
85	69½	Hadex Mach†	82	–1	4.8	16.0
152	114	Hall Eng	139	+2	2.7	17.3
158	98	Hardy & Hans	98		5.1	16.9
320	135	Hall Eng	139		2.2	10.9
256	178	Helma	189	+2	1.8	19.5
73	47	Hampson Ind	50	–1	5.1	9.3
48	25	Hay (Maxwell)	25			15.1
155	115	Hall & Smith	115		6.2	
63	39	Hopkinsons	39			28
96	56	How Gp	56	–5	3.2	
41	27	Howden	27		4.2	12.3
178	157	Hunting	170		7.4	24.3
41	26½	IMI	38	–	4.1	26.2
75	33½	Johnson & Fth	45½			
626	498	Johnson Matth	510	–1	3.8	19.1
32	25	Jones Stroman	25			
336	250	Kelsey Ind†	335		5.2	
275	205	Linear	205		3.1	17.1

ENGINEERING, VEHICLES

65	31	AAF Inds	37	+1		
160	108	Arlow Stream	157		3.2	15.4
638	446	Avon Rubber	446		4.6	11.6
236	173	BBA	194	–2	3.1	
86½	49½	BSA	54	+2½	3.3	33.8
18½	8½	Benson Group	9		4.9	12.2
306	180	Bodycm	296		2.5	17.0
26½	17	Bourdnath	24		5.2	
54	19	Brentford	54		11.7	
357	275	BHF	356		1.4	
396	256	First Tech	389		2.6	21.3
660	510½	BOH	563	–12	4.6	32.9
4380½	2330½	Bowest Mtrs	2400	–60½		
1230	915	Bndix Mnstr	1084½	+30½	3.0	
432½	304	Land	316	+2	4.3	15.3
397	233	Loades	360			
239	156	Lucas	183	–4	4.8	
94	59	Mayflower	59		3.0	24.8

UNIT TRUST INFORMATION SERVICE

AIB UNIT TRUST MANAGERS LTD
01800 668 785

	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld %
Gresham Acorn	158.60	165.70	+ 1.80	0.26
Gresham Equity	222.80	232.80	+ 1.20	2.13
Gresham Euro	182.60	205.00	+ 2.40	0.56
Gresham Sovt Bd	107.10	111.00	+ 2.30	2.70
Gresham Gilt	72.40	74.70	+ 0.70	5.82
Gresham Japan	152.60	161.50	+ 0.80	...

AXA EQUITY & LAW UNIT TST MGRS
01283 653 231

General Acc	505.60	537.80	– 2.10	3.04
General Inc	445.70	474.20	– 1.90	3.04
UK Growth Acc	349.50	362.30	– 2.00	3.11
UK Growth Inc	233.00	247.90	– 1.40	3.11
Higher Inc Acc	636.20	676.90	–10.60	4.29
Higher Inc Inc	392.70	391.20	– 6.30	4.29
Gilts/Fxd Int Acc	183.10	193.30†	+ 1.10	8.05
Gilts/Fxd Int Inc	88.78	91.84†	– 0.29	8.06
Nth America	357.50	374.60†	+ 3.80	...
Far East	318.50	338.90†	+ 7.10	0.37
Europe	286.00	283.00†	+ 4.10	0.69
Int Equity	97.77	72.10	– 0.21	3.30
Int. Fixed Int.	97.00	103.20	– 1.20	4.97
Int Property	71.12	75.65	+ 0.63	4.97
Global Opps	73.47	84.55	+ 0.63	2.39
Balanced Acc	51.39	54.69	+ 0.21	3.29
Balanced Inc	50.12	53.32	– 0.22	3.26

ABBEY UNIT TST MGRS
0345 717 373

High Income				
Gilts & Fixed Int	125.00	132.70†	– 0.30	8.04
High Inc Equity	151.80	162.10	– 1.30	4.86
Worldwide Bond	261.90	278.10†	+ 3.90	5.47
Capital Growth				
American Growth	286.20	288.40	+ 5.20	.93
Asian Pacific	264.30	282.40	+ 5.20	...
Assets & Earnings	243.80	258.40	– 1.80	3.89
Country & Energy	91.08	96.67†	+ 1.56	.13
Euro Capital Inc	127.20	136.60	+ 0.70	71
(Accum Units)	135.90	145.30	+ 0.80	71
General	215.40	229.10†	+ 0.80	2.37
Japan	119.70	118.40	+ 1.60	...
Mastermind	150.60	159.70	+ 0.60	1.87
Uk Growth Dist	110.10	117.00	+ 0.50	5.09
US Emerging Cos	128.20	137.10	+ 1.70	...
Income & Growth	361.10	384.70	– 3.20	3.25
FF Inst	63.44	67.40	– 0.27	3.19
International	104.60	111.20	+ 1.00	1.24
Dividend & Growth	58.46	60.08	– 0.01	4.68
Global Growth & Sec	66.41	70.63	– 0.59	2.56

ABERFORTH UNIT TRUST MGRS LTD
0131 220 0733

UK Small Cos	£10.00	£14.65		...

ABTRUST UNIT TRUST MGRS LTD
0800 833 388

Assoc Inc & Growth	42.38	44.99	+ 0.56	0.70
Cash	50.85	50.85†	+ 0.01	5.64
Emerging Mkts	62.05	63.69†	+ 0.67	0.07
European	106.80	111.60†	+ 1.20	...
Exempt	508.20	978.50	– 3.10	1.91
Euro Income #	43.78	46.94†	– 0.02	5.42
Far East Emg Eco	104.10	110.20	+ 0.90	0.57
Fixed Interest #	21.97	23.08†		8.57
Fund Inv Tst	155.50	164.70	+ 0.10	1.02
Income	65.70	70.20	+ 2.70	...
Latin American	48.06	42.04	– 1.00	1.16
Pacific	85.78	89.19	– 0.97	0.36
Property Shares	59.57	63.63	– 0.02	2.18
UK Emerging Cos	59.53	62.48	+ 0.01	–1.99
UK Growth	41.17	43.88	– 0.30	2.58
Xtra Yield Port #	67.68	68.80	+ 0.38	6.27
Ethical	59.29	62.24	+ 0.02	2.83
Aberdeen Gilt Inc #	48.52	48.52†	– 0.07	7.73

AEGON UNIT TRUSTS LTD
0131 549 9292

British Growth	65.08	69.22†	– 0.33	3.00
British Income	75.80	80.64†	– 0.24	3.79
Select Portfolio	78.77	83.80†	– 0.79	..

ALLCHURCHES INV MGMT SVS LTD
01452 305 958

Acrilly Income	76.40	74.69†	– 0.04	2.61
Income Builder Inc	63.57	67.83	– 1.00	3.08

ALLIED DUNBAR UNIT TSTS PLC
IFA dlg: 01793 610 366 Client dlg: 01793 514 614

Managed Trusts				
Growth & Income	213.50	226.20	– 0.60	3.42
Capital	374.70	408.50	– 2.00	2.06
Balanced	624.60	667.60†	– 3.10	2.88
Accumulator	1211.56	1312.36	–10.06	3.26
Income Trusts				
International Income	45.51	48.66†	+ 0.21	3.66
High Income	359.10	383.80†	+ 1.70	4.82
Equity Income	204.70	218.80	– 0.90	3.61
High Yield	230.80	246.00	– 0.99	3.88
Gilt Securities	32.24	34.04†	– 0.35	6.23
International Trusts				
Asset Spec Sits	139.40	149.00	+ 1.00	0.47
European Growth	32.43	34.66	+ 0.20	0.01
International	146.30	156.30†	+ 0.80	0.21
Japan	105.50	108.20†	+ 1.30	0.01
Pacific	145.90	155.90†	+ 1.20	0.01
Secs of Amercty	403.90	429.90†	+ 2.80	0.54
Wrldw Asset Val	44.37	47.43	+ 0.31	0.25
Specialised Trusts				
Asset Value	476.50	511.50†	– 3.50	2.49
Cnvn & Gilt	40.11	42.87†	– 0.14	5.41
Smaller Cos	157.20	168.00	+ 0.10	1.32
2nd Smaller Cos	149.10	159.30†	+ 0.10	1.53
Recovery	126.80	135.50	– 0.50	1.53
Ltd Mat & Dity	133.90	142.90	+ 0.80	0.53
Oceac Earnings	329.90	343.00†	– 1.80	1.97
Technology	154.60	165.20	+ 1.90	0.01
UK Special Sits	417.10	445.80†	– 2.80	1.94

B & C E UNIT TRUST MGMT LTD
01293 525 911

Control Dist Pens	94.86	98.55	..	3.04
Foreign Pens Pens	59.57	61.88	..	..

BSI-THORNHILL UNIT TST MGRS LTD
0171 600 0033

Capital	65.91	70.12	– 0.07	2.00
International	59.47	64.33	..	..

BAILLIE GIFFORD & CO LTD
0131 222 4242

America	258.70	280.20†	+ 3.10	..
Bond	107.90	113.69	+ 0.40	7.33
Bal Trust Cos	92.20	97.10	+ 0.48	1.91
Core & Gen #	61.34	65.25†	– 0.23	6.04
Europe	211.10	225.10	+ 3.00	0.63
Euro Trust Cos	95.37	101.60	+ 0.90	0.57
Income Growth	316.40	336.60†	+ 7.50	4.71
Japan	352.90	361.20	+ 1.80	..
Latin American	52.01	55.33	– 1.21	..
Pacific	94.65	100.70	+ 2.21	1.56
UK Smlr Cos	49.87	53.05	+ 0.07	1.44
Japan Fd	636.40	656.50†	+ 7.30	..
Mngd Fd	161.10	171.40	+ 0.60	3.29

BANK OF IRELAND FUND MGRS LTD
0171 488 8973

Bill & Dossa	261.40	275.20	– 5.50	1.35
Capital Growth	192.00	197.40	– 3.60	2.50
Whole Dom	164.90	172.60	– 4.70	0.48

BARCLAYS UNICORN LTD
0181 934 5644

Balanced Trusts				
Stra Inv Fd Inc	318.30	331.60	– 2.90	3.26
European Bd Inc	86.89	89.99†	+ 0.23	7.96
Exempt	66.39	73.14	– 0.40	4.58
Financial	68.87	73.85	– 0.19	3.05
100 Gt	469.60	488.10†	– 1.30	2.76
General	253.70	271.90	– 1.80	2.97
Property	243.20	254.30	..	6.57
Treasure	166.50	178.10	– 1.40	2.68
Income Trusts				
Cash Inc	100.70	100.70	..	5.63
Extra Income	110.30	118.00	– 0.70	4.41
Gilt & Fxd Inc	85.31	87.17†	– 0.11	9.02
Income	476.60	511.20†	– 5.70	4.47
Income Builder	57.45	61.12†	– 0.47	5.34
Intl Income	57.38	61.04	– 0.28	4.35
Growth Trusts - UK				
Capital	108.20	115.40†	– 0.80	2.71
Leisure	112.30	120.10	– 1.30	1.71
Recovery	382.30	408.90	– 1.0	3.07
Smlr Cos Inc	41.05	44.02	+ 0.04	2.15
Special Sits	261.40	279.50	– 0.40	1.78
Growth Trusts - Overseas				
America	118.40	126.70	+ 2.30	0.66
Aust Acc	219.60	233.60	+ 5.50	2.42
Aust Inc	135.10	143.70	+ 3.40	2.42
Euro Gwth Inc	140.40	149.30	+ 1.40	1.84
Eurogwth Acc	159.50	169.70	+ 1.60	1.84
Japan & Gen Inc	157.40	166.60†	+ 3.40	..
(Accum Units)	159.20	168.50	+ 3.40	..
Japan Smlr Sits	72.51	76.81	+ 1.45	..
Latin Tech Inc	73.70	78.35	+ 0.78	0.66
Worldwide	153.30	163.70	+ 1.80	1.03

BARING FD MGRS LTD (DEALING SUSPENDED)
0171 214 1004

American Growth	97.85	92.34	+ 1.99	..
Amer Smlr Cos	123.30	132.00	+ 2.30	..
Convertibles	52.09	56.52	– 0.11	5.70
Eastern	341.30	360.80	+ 4.60	0.19
Equity Income	81.33	87.76†	– 0.10	4.90
European Growth	295.30	302.00	+ 3.00	0.27
Europt	212.20	225.70	+ 4.70	0.29
German Growth	73.27	77.72	+ 0.82	0.50
Global Bond	69.37	64.21	+ 0.32	6.28
Global Growth	115.30	122.00	+ 1.10	..
Japan Growth	182.90	194.50	+ 0.60	..
Japan Sunrise	154.70	164.50	+ 0.80	..
Korea Trust	71.71	76.88	+ 1.57	..
Portfolio	178.80	184.30†	+ 0.10	1.80
Recovery	276.30	326.30†	+ 0.80	0.23
(Accum Units)	276.30	326.30†	+ 0.80	0.23
UK Growth	76.94	82.55	– 0.05	2.26
UK Smaller Cos	76.19	83.12	– 0.11	1.89
Select Managers	69.25	74.16	+ 0.23	1.10

BLACKSTONE FRANKS UT MGRS LTD
0171 250 3300

Intl Distrib Port Inc	66.65	73.04†	– 0.44	...
Special Opps Inc	42.76	50.91†	– 1.67	...

BRITANNIA LIFE UNIT MGRS LTD
0141 223 8020

Balanced Growth	97.71	103.46	– 0.75	1.97
(Accum Units)	109.83	116.23	– 0.85	1.97
Smaller Cos	94.48	99.99	– 0.69	1.28
Higher Yield #	41.35	43.97	– 0.28	4.76
American Gth Inc	82.75	91.69†	+ 1.11	...
European Growth	125.41	132.71†	– 1.19	...
(Accum Units)	127.88	135.33	– 1.22	...
Global Bond Inc #	25.94	26.98	+ 0.05	8.29
Mngd Pfolio Inc	38.74	40.98	+ 0.17	1.54
(Accum Units)	38.29	41.56	+ 0.17	1.54
Int Spec Opps	104.25	110.31	+ 1.58	...
Pacific Gth	112.56	119.11	+ 2.08	...
Opportunity UKS				
UK Ecnmcal #	68.57	72.98	– 0.49	3.73
(Accum Units) #	70.53	74.74	– 0.50	3.73
Japan	35.72	38.97†	+ 0.61	..
Gilt & Fixed Int #	92.52	94.41†	– 0.27	7.59

BURRAGE UNIT TST MGMT LTD
0171 489 7218

Short Dated Gilt	81.93	82.74†	– 0.08	8.52

CIS UNIT MANAGERS LTD
0161 832 5050

Environ	145.08	154.38	– 0.90	1.84
UK Growth	154.40	164.20†	– 1.80	2.55
UK Income	124.80	132.80	– 0.90	4.68

CANADA LIFE UNIT TST MGRS LTD
01737 661 122

Can Gro Dist	170.80	181.60†	– 0.90	2.19
–do- Income Dist	105.20	108.30	– 0.70	4.62
(Accum Units)	306.40	326.90	– 2.20	4.62
Gilt & Fxd Int	39.35	40.61†	– 0.22	6.69

CAPEL-CURE MYERS UT MGMT LTD
0181 208 5685 Ent 0181 208 5685 Dlg 0181 208 8952

American & Gen	143.10	152.90	+ 1.60	..
European Inc	76.70	79.80	+ 0.20	0.59
Smaller Cos (4-1)	75.08	79.80†		2.23
Growth	385.90	410.60†	– 4.60	2.73
Income & Growth	371.70	395.50†	– 1.80	4.17
(Accum Units)	530.40	564.30†	– 2.70	4.33
Japan & Gen	65.28	69.29	+ 1.57	..
Master Portfolio	294.35	297.80†	+15.00	2.28
(Accum Units)	512.56	516.70†	+ 19.60	2.28
Special Sits	89.09	94.78†	+ 0.21	2.98
High Yield	612.12	612.50†	– 7.00	4.78

CAZENOVE UNIT TRUST MGMT LTD
0171 606 0705

Cazenove Portfolio	77.50	82.70	– 0.34	2.54
American Portfolio	86.54	92.39	+ 0.88	1.27
European Portfolio	90.89	96.91	+ 0.92	0.83
Japanese Portfolio	56.66	60.50†	+ 0.93	..
Pacific Portfolio	123.77	132.08	+ 1.72	0.96
UK Inc & Growth	70.68	75.62	– 0.34	3.46
Utility & Bond	51.71	52.37	– 1.84	7.05

CENT BD OF FIN OF CHURCH OF ENG
0171 588 1815

Inv Fund	627.75	653.45	..	4.86
Fxd In Soc	147.85	148.20	..	9.78

CENTURY UNIT TRUSTS LTD
01771 262 5000

UK General Tst	58.35	62.07	– 0.43	3.20

COF-CHARITIES OFFICIAL INV FD
0171 588 1815

Inc	618.67	624.52	..	4.96
Accum	626.31	630.50	..	..
Fixed Int Inc	120.20	120.42	..	9.63
Fixed Int Acc	187.69	187.95	..	..

CHARTERED ASSET MGMT LTD
0171 897 7007

Intl Growth	107.48	117.67	..	..
UK Income	99.87	108.85	..	5.58

CITY FINANCIAL UT MGRS LTD
0171 407 5566

Beckman Intl	75.76	80.50	..	1.50
Beck Bio-Tech	26.17	28.03	..	..
Assoc Ethical Tst	144.02	151.60	..	..
City Fin Assets	83.11	87.14	..	1.34
City Fin America	83.97	88.39	..	..
City Fin Intl	70.57	74.28	..	0.98
City Fin Japan	141.73	149.19	..	..
Friars Inter Cap	253.52	266.86	..	1.75
Friars Hse Inc	182.92	190.86	..	4.24
Buckley Wrld Gth	115.77	123.16†	..	0.10
Fairmic Cap Gth	127.9	135.11	..	..
Retirement Ref	120.05	147.94	..	..
City Fin Fins Inc	61.08	64.35	..	4.45

CITY OF LONDON UNIT TST MGRS LTD
0171 711 0771 Admin: 01277 227 300
Emerging Markets: 49.62 52.01 + 0.62 .

CLERICAL MEDICAL UT MGRS LTD
0800 373 393

American Growth	54.76	58.69	+ 0.87	..
Atlas Mngd Gwth	33.74	36.05	+ 0.39	0.50
Dragon Growth	68.12	64.39	+ 1.00	0.61
Equity High Inc	75.78	80.69†	+ 0.78	4.35
(Accum Units)	192.70	109.26	+ 1.06	4.35
European Gwth	57.85	61.35	+ 0.65	0.99
Recovery	144.80	154.10	+ 1.20	2.37

CO-OP PENSION FDS UT MGRS LTD
0171 263 9494

Equity Dist	763.60	776.90		3.66

CREDIT SUISSE INV FDS (UK) LTD
01277 680 370

Fellowship Tst	69.12	73.53	+ 0.13	1.34
Income #	230.60	234.60	+ 0.18	4.66
(Accum Units) #	643.30	677.80	+ 0.50	4.66
Smaller Cos	148.70	158.10	+ 0.80	0.61
(Accum Units)	181.70	193.20	+ 1.00	0.61
Inv Portfolio	72.85	77.48	– 0.46	1.56
High Inc Pen #	63.66	67.72	– 0.05	5.12

DIMENSIONAL TST MGMT LTD
0171 410 0177

Euro Small Cos	£15.02	£15.36	..	..
Japan Small Cos	£11.20	£11.42	..	..
UK Small Cos	£18.63	£17.37	..	..
US Small Cos	£15.58	£16.08	..	..

DISCRETIONARY UNIT FUND MGRS
0171 377 8818

Disc Inc	188.40	199.40		3.15

DUNEDIN UNIT TST MGRS LTD
0131 315 5500

Selected Gwth	262.70	277.80	+ 4.40	1.60
New Asia	190.00	202.50	+ 3.00	0.17
Japan Growth	169.50	177.10	+ 1.10	...
Jap Smlr Co	444.80	472.10	+ 4.50	...
Nth Amer	248.50	263.50	+ 3.50	0.50
Stanfld Asia Pac Ml	167.30	113.70	+ 1.90	0.40
UK Inc & Gwth	195.20	208.30	+ 1.10	3.16

EAGLE STAR UNIT MGRS LTD
01242 577 555

UK Balanced Inc	128.90	137.10	– 0.90	1.95
UK High Inc Inc	138.50	147.30	– 0.70	4.89
(Accum Units)	177.40	188.70	– 0.96	4.89
UK Pref & Fixed Int	65.84	69.36	– 0.18	5.28
Barrowmill Opps	78.75	83.79	– 0.37	3.12
Uk Smlr Cos #	47.10	50.11	+ 0.12	..

EDINBURGH UNIT TST MGRS LTD
0345 080 826

American	115.70	122.80	+ 1.50	1.43
Commodities #	19.05	20.24†	– 0.02	0.92
Equity Income #	114.60	121.80†	– 0.60	4.35
Enhanced	43.06	45.74	+ 0.05	0.44
Financial	40.50	42.62	+ 0.01	1.75
Growth & Inc #	212.70	227.10†	– 1.00	2.84
High Dist #	141.80	150.70	+ 1.00	4.56
Income Spec Sits	94.25	99.23†	+ 0.56	..
Japan	176.10	187.50	+ 3.50	..
Managed Inv	254.80	271.30†	+ 2.50	..
Mastermotion	48.12	50.25	+ 0.43	..
Recovery	44.30	47.11	+ 0.01	..
South E Asia	133.80	142.80	+ 2.50	..
Special Sits	477.00	507.20	+ 1.20	..
Specialist Funds				
Cash Accum Units	108.44	108.44	+ 0.01	5.88

FLEMING PRIVATE FUND INVEST LTD
0171 814 2700

Balanced #	126.00	128.70†		2.06
Inc Profile #	78.76	80.33†	– 0.39	4.17
Cap Profile	130.20	132.70	+ 0.39	1.35
General Opps	114.50	116.30		3.60
Growth Inv	27.66	28.24	– 0.06	1.50
Private Portfolio	370.20	386.60†		1.35

FOREIGN & COLONIAL UNIT MGT
Enq 0171 454 1434 Dlg 01277 281 010

Emrg Foreign & Colonial				
European	107.10	113.10	+ 1.60	0.53
Emrg Asian	159.80	161.40	+ 1.10	..
High Income	20.23	21.49†	– 0.06	10.47
Overs Income	85.30	91.27	+ 1.21	3.54
Pacific Portfolio	123.77	132.08	+ 1.72	0.96
UK Income	68.74	165.40	– 0.10	3.86
US Smaller Cos	265.30	283.10	+ 5.06	0.12

FOSTER & BRAITHWAITE FUND MANAGEMENT LTD
0171 407 5995

High Inc Eqty	44.09	46.96	– 0.55	3.61
-do- Inv Tst Inc	69.13	72.69†	– 0.17	4.64
Intl Growth	53.04	56.29	+ 0.35	1.35
Investment Trust	62.91	67.18†	+ 0.19	...
UK Smaller Cos	76.09	79.95	+ 0.06	1.03

FRAMLINGTON UNIT MGMT LTD
0171 374 4100

American Growth	52.84	56.56†	– 0.12	...
(Accum Units)	52.84	56.56†	– 0.12	...
Amer Smlr Cos	454.00	484.50	+ 3.50	1.15
(Accum Units)	462.80	495.00	+ 3.60	...
Capital Tst	283.10	301.10	+ 0.10	1.81
(Accum Units)	404.40	430.10	+ 0.10	1.81
Cont Europ Cos	58.09	62.17	+ 0.24	0.57
(Accum Units)	81.85	85.33	+ 0.28	0.58
Convertible	118.29	126.70	+ 0.10	5.87
(Accum Units)	259.00	254.20	+ 0.10	5.87
Emerging Markets	54.35	58.48	+ 0.45	...
(Accum Units)	66.41	63.47	+ 0.45	...
European	112.70	119.50	+ 1.00	0.14
(Accum Units)	116.10	123.20	+ 1.00	0.14
Far East Income	305.10	324.50†	+ 1.50	4.14
(Accum Units)	456.40	487.50†	+ 2.20	4.14
Financials	116.30	125.60	+ 0.10	0.30
(Accum Units)	122.40	131.50	+ 0.10	0.30
Gilt Trust	69.41	62.29	+ 0.55	7.97
(Accum Units)	84.36	87.00	+ 0.75	6.97
Health Fund Inc	128.20	136.10	+ 0.40	...
(Accum Units)	128.50	136.10	+ 0.40	...
Income & Growth	175.40	186.80	+ 0.70	3.32
(Accum Units)	294.90	281.80	+ 1.00	3.32
Intl Growth	333.80	357.80	+ 1.50	...
(Accum Units)	370.60	397.10	+ 1.70	...
Japan & Gen	157.40	166.00†	+ 3.70	...
(Accum Units)	159.00	169.60†	+ 3.80	...
Monthly Inc	149.40	158.60†	+ 1.00	4.71
Managed Port Inc	98.61	101.70	+ 0.11	1.91
(Accum Units)	102.40	107.80	+ 0.70	3.32
Quarterly Income	48.23	50.20†	– 0.06	4.97
(Accum Units)	52.48	55.60†	– 0.07	4.97
Recovery	315.80	337.60†	+ 0.30	0.13
(Accum Units)	371.80	397.50†	+ 0.30	0.13
UK Growth	419.60	441.50†	+ 1.30	2.79
(Accum Units)	51.32	54.80	+ 0.09	2.79

FRIENDS PROVIDENT UNIT TRUSTS
Dealing: 01705 851350 Enq: 01705 851340

FP Am Smlr Cos	106.50	113.90	+ 2.10	0.0
FP Asian Growth	229.50	245.10	+ 5.20	0.0
FP Equity Dist	352.30	375.00	+ 3.10	2.88
-do- Accum	744.00	792.10	+ 6.60	2.88
FP Fixed Gilt Dist	138.10	146.90†	+ 2.20	8.54
-do- Accum	144.60	153.10†	+ 2.30	8.54
FP Fixed Int Dist	126.20	134.30†	+ 0.80	7.53
-do- Accum	254.10	247.30†	+ 1.40	7.53
FP Intl Bond	54.00	57.11	+ 0.72	8.75
FP Intl Gth Dist	84.69	90.30	+ 1.16	0.73
-do- Accum	85.67	84.54	+ 1.24	0.73
FP Nth Amer Gwt	175.60	186.20	+ 3.00	1.16
-do- Accum	191.60	203.20	+ 3.40	1.16
FP Pac Basin Dist	230.00	238.70	+ 5.80	0.25
FP Income	286.50	304.70	+ 5.90	0.26
FP Income Gilt Dist	49.78	53.09	– 0.09	5.49
FP Property Dist	161.10	171.80	– 0.30	5.49
FP Ap Smlr Cos	314.80	330.70	+ 4.60	0.49
FP Monthly Dist	68.32	70.77†	– 0.24	6.27
FP Stlg Deposit	100.70	100.70	..	5.49
FP Tokyo	80.44	85.99	+ 1.80	0.0
FP UK Focus	29.61	30.07	+ 0.04	2.65
FP UK Growth	157.20	167.60	+ 0.80	3.04
(Accum Units)	304.30	324.50	+ 1.10	3.04
Stewardship Dist	305.70	326.20	+ 0.80	2.16
-do- Accum	375.10	398.00	+ 0.80	2.16
Stewardship Inc Dist	66.72	70.44†	+ 0.20	5.87
-do- Accum	85.89	91.37†	+ 0.61	3.96
# An Stdg Dist	98.82	98.06	+ 1.66	6.01
-do- Accum	95.56	102.10	+ 2.50	1.55
FP Managed Portfolio Service				
Capital (Gilt) Acc	98.64	106.00	– 1.10	1.06
Opps Cap Gth Acc	100.70	107.10	– 1.10	0.26
Cap Gth Inc Inc	98.45	102.60†	– 1.80	2.52
Cap Gth Inc Acc	98.60	105.10	– 1.80	2.52
Dyn Cp Gth Inc Inc	98.50	105.10†	– 1.80	3.16
Dyn Cp Gth Inc Acc	101.70	108.10	– 1.90	3.16
MM Liat Tracks				
American	42.63	45.67	+ 0.77	1.20
Australian	265.50	285.70	+ 6.10	0.10
Europe	192.90	204.50	+ 4.30	0.75
Japan (Accum Units)	208.60	221.20	+ 3.40	0.75
Gold	41.59	44.72	+ 1.14	0.0
Intnl	29.54	31.52†	+ 0.45	0.59
(Accum Units)	42.63	45.70	+ 0.54	0.59

GA UNIT TRUST MGRS LTD
0345 581 1097

GAMGH	217.60	230.10	– 2.30	2.68
Cash	49.46	50.20†		5.64
Growth Portfolio	77.15	75.42	– 1.06	0.83
Income Portfolio	59.83	63.06†	+ 0.02	4.89

GEM DOLPHIN INV MGRS LTD
0171 236 6441

Special Sits	158.80	169.00	+ 0.30	1.66
Dividend	83.25	88.04†	+ 1.49	3.83
Int Gth & Inc	200.80	218.00	+ 0.90	3.34
UK & Gen	40.48	43.51†	+ 0.50	2.57
Fund of Funds	57.79	61.31	+ 0.61	

GT UNIT MANAGERS LTD
0171 710 4557 Dealing 0171 628 8401

Amer Spec Sits	172.70	184.80	+ 2.30	
European	521.10	555.00†	+ 7.80	0.26
Far East & Gen	228.50	244.40	+ 4.50	
Germany	115.70	122.50	+ 1.40	
Income Inc	139.30	148.60†	+ 0.50	4.61
(Accum Units)	150.20	160.60†	+ 0.50	4.61
International	231.20	311.50†	+ 2.70	
Intl Income	75.31	79.61	+ 1.05	4.25
Japan & General	370.70	394.70	+ 4.00	
Korean Securities	59.26	63.36	+ 1.78	
Smlr Cos Del Inc	41.51	44.49	+ 0.04	5.61
UK Growth Inc	150.10	160.60†	+ 0.30	1.44
UK Capital Acc	252.50	269.80	+ 0.30	1.44
UK Spec Sits	74.93	80.14	+ 0.33	0.77
US & General	120.30	128.60	+ 1.40	
World Spec Sits	134.30	143.70	+ 1.40	

GARTMORE FUND MANAGERS
0171 782 2000 Dlgs only: 01277 284 421
UK Growth Funds

British Growth	43.65	46.69	+ 0.12	2.68
Cash Trust	130.			

Spreading their wings throughout Europe

Violet Johnstone explains how Britain's secretaries can boost their international status and improve their foreign languages and professional skills

When the European Association of Professional Secretaries (EAPS) held its twentieth annual conference in London last autumn, it was an occasion to savour for its English founder, Sonia Vanular.

Since the day in October 1974 when 16 secretaries from nine countries met in Zurich to define the aims of the association, it has grown to 2,000 members from 18 countries and has gone a long way towards achieving two of its key aims: to promote the image of professional secretaries across Europe and to encourage self-development.

What does the EAPS have to offer? Most members say the main advantage is the opportunity to meet and to network with others who are working at a similar senior level throughout Europe. As one says: "Tied to confidentiality you can feel isolated and start asking yourself 'Am I the only one who has to put up with this level of pressure, this situation?' When there's a deal going on, you mustn't show you're under strain. Meeting other EAPS members is very useful. You can let off a little professional steam and they'll understand without asking searching questions."

Anyone wanting to join as a full member must have three years experience as an executive secretary to either a chairman, a managing director or a main board director.

"We make no apologies for being an élite," says Janis Nowak, national secretary of EAPS UK. "That is one of the reasons why we have been successful. It gives weight to the association and demonstrates to bosses that we are not schoolgirls on a Sunday outing."

For Mrs Nowak, who is secretary to the chairman of Schroders, the merchant bank, joining EAPS has been beneficial in several ways. Like many members she is a great believer in the maxim that you get out what you put into anything, so she became more involved in the association as membership secretary with the task of increasing numbers without diluting quality.

In her next role as public relations officer she had her first taste of writing articles and became fully exposed to the European scene when she attended the biannual council meetings. EAPS membership ranges from Scandinavia to Cyprus, and the differing status of the executive secretary abroad is a reflection of the cultural attitudes of those countries.

In Britain, Mrs Nowak says, we are roughly in the centre of those two extremes — not as advanced as Scandinavia, which sees the secretary as an essential element of the management team, but ahead of Greece or Cyprus, where management styles are more chauvinistic.

She explains: "Scandinavian secretaries have more autonomy than we have; they request certain contractual benefits. For example, they'll say to their company: 'You will pay my subscription to EAPS'. We had 60 Swedish members at the London conference and nearly all were sponsored by their firms. Scandinavians view secretaries attending their own conference as business; here it is seen as a favour and I find it a shame that not more companies use EAPS as a training opportunity."

Barbara Smith, secretary to the chief executive of Thomas Cook, feels that Britain's lean and mean ethic of working on minimal resources impedes the self-development of secretaries.

"Many EAPS members don't even consider asking for expenses, and that's a mistake. If you don't ask, you don't get. I have gained a great deal with the interface of Europe. We were, and still are, cushioned to think that British is best, but no way are we, or are our qualifications linguistically."

Alison Rumbell, secretary to the chief executive of Save and Prosper, says: "I speak French, I know Spanish and I'm learning German, but when I hear the way all the other women from the Continent speak English and argue their points at meetings, I feel quite humble. For many of them English isn't even their second, but their third language." Ms Rumbell feels that with increasing competition within the EU, there is no room for complacency.

Because Rosemary Haile doesn't use her French in her job as secretary to the chairman of Thames Water, but is anxious to use it regularly, she has joined the EAPS French group. This meets once a month to study, translate and discuss a French text. "We also go to see French films, have Christmas dinner in a French restaurant and go to France for a weekend once a year," she says.

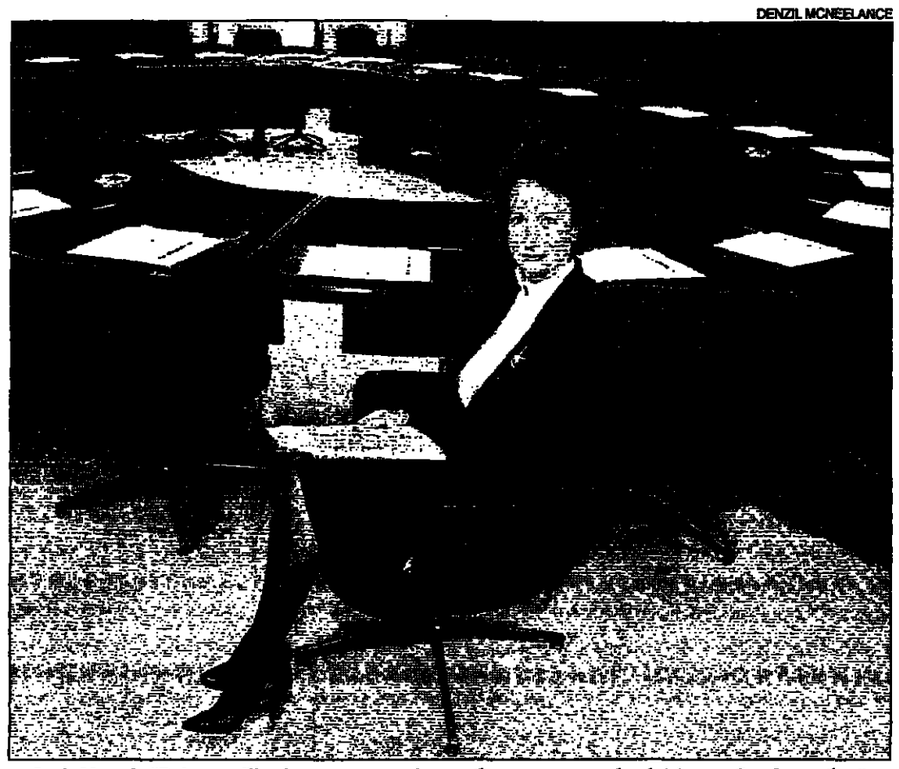
There is no doubt that the association has gained clout in the commercial world: it has close links with education bodies (for example, it advises on NVQs) and is increasingly asked to provide speakers for various assignments.

Last year, two members were invited to Dubai to chair and to speak at the first Secretarial Development Conference for the Executive Secretary in the Gulf. The theme for the 1995 AGM in Cyprus is "Breaking Down Barriers and Forging Links".

Host countries after that will include Italy, Germany and Iceland.

● *For details about joining EAPS, contact Dorothy Fleetwood on 01902 316571. Yearly membership costs £43.50 plus £12 registration fee.*

DENZIL MCNEELANCE



Janis Nowak: "Being an élite demonstrates to bosses that we are not schoolgirls on a Sunday outing"

TO ADVERTISE CALL: 0171 481 9994

LA CRÈME DE LA CRÈME

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High-Calibre Secretarial Positions
Hammersmith

Heckett MultiServ is a large international company specialising in the Steel and Metallurgical industries which is moving in May to prestigious new premises in Hammersmith. Due to this move, we now have the following vacancies:

MARKETING
c£17,000 + Bens.

A confident team orientated secretary is required to work principally for our Director of Contract Development and Marketing Communications. Excellent interpersonal skills, fast accurate typing, computer literacy (Microsoft Office) essential. The position, whilst being primarily secretarial, is also a support role in the production of promotional/presentation materials.

PERSONNEL
c£19,000 + Bens.

A high calibre secretary required to work for our Group Personnel Director. Previous personnel experience is essential as well as excellent interpersonal skills, shorthand/typing 90/60, exceptional organisational and administrative skills as well as computer literacy (Microsoft Office). A knowledge of the French language would be useful.

Interested candidates should send a comprehensive CV to: Ms Caroline Howard, Personnel Officer, Heckett MultiServ plc, Piccadilly House, 33 Regent Street, London SW1Y 4NB.

Heckett MultiServ
a harsco company

Artistic Flair?
Private House
£19-20,000

Have you been longing to combine your brilliant skills with your passion for the Arts? Then this could be the answer to your dreams. Working from a private house in North London, involvement will be guaranteed as you assist your high profile boss in all areas of his work. 90wpm shorthand and Microsoft Word for Windows essential. Please call Nicky Hitchings on 0171-434 4212 immediately.

Crone Corkill
RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS

Starting From Scratch!
£20,000 & Bonus & M/Sub

This is exactly what you will be doing when you help to set up the Fund Management arm of this established City bank. Working closely with the Managing Director you will implement office systems, produce marketing material and provide full PA and administrative back up. We require an energetic and highly motivated individual who will give 100% committment to this role. In return you will be given a lot of responsibility and the opportunity to input your ideas. Coming from a City background, with Director level experience, your skills will include fast typing, Windows, spreadsheet and DTP knowledge. Age 25-35. Please call Vanessa Mitchell on 0171-390-7000 or fax your CV on 0171-390 2997.

Crone Corkill
RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS

Management Opportunity
c£20,000 + Benefits

Our client is an innovative Management Consultancy with an enviable client base and a reputation for excellence.
As head of Document Production which supports c300 internal clients you will: Supervise and motivate a team of 8; monitor the production of high quality work to deadlines produce statistics detailing activity for your unit. Additional challenges will be to, set and maintain service standards, encourage proactivity and ensure a fast and accurate turn around of work.
You will be mature and ambitious with proven supervisory experience and excellent interpersonal skills, have WP (and preferably Apple Mac) skills to an advanced level with a minimum typing speed of 60 wpm. Age 25-45
For further information please telephone Karen Levine on 0171-390 7000 or fax your CV to her on 0171-390 2997.

Crone Corkill
RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS

Bloomin' Brilliant!

Join the Crone Corkill temporary team this spring and you too can blossom into one of the most sought after temporary secretaries in London.

We are seeing a real growth in the number of assignments from a sluggish January and the forecast looks good with a change in the current climate which we expect to continue throughout the spring and summer.

For sustained growth and maximum exposure you need fast & accurate typing (60wpm) together with an excellent grounding in a windows environment. Teamed with your flexible and mature approach we can then provide you with the sustenance you will need to flourish:

* A well established client base offering long and short term bookings
* Excellent hourly rates
* A professional and cultivated service from our team of seasoned temporary controllers.

Ring us now to join the team 0171 434 4512

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Sales & Marketing Administrator
South London c.£25,000 + Benefits

An exciting and demanding role using your international sales administration skills to set up a new sales office

THE COMPANY
- Profitable manufacturing subsidiary of major plc.
- Ambitious plans for expansion into European and other world markets.

THE POSITION
- To establish a new UK sales office to fully support all national and international sales and marketing activities.
- Reporting to the Marketing Director, and managing a small dedicated team.

THE PERSON
- Vibrant, highly capable person.
- Experience of a dynamic customer orientated international sales environment.
- Knowledge of contract tendering and export documentation preferred.
- A flair for organisation, excellent secretarial skills including WordPerfect and Lotus 1-2-3.
- Fluency in languages other than English.

Please send full career details, including salary, to Mrs Joanne Ashby, HWT, Compton House, Selsdon Road, South Croydon, Surrey CR2 6PA. (Fax: 081-680 9773). Please quote ref. 1563.

HAWKINS WRIGHT THOMPSON
International Executive Search & Selection

SALES ADMINISTRATOR SALARY TO £16,500

Computer company seeks experienced secretary with outgoing personality to co-ordinate and support computer sales team. Word for Windows and Excel skills essential. "A" level standard of education desirable. Must be a team player! Handling sales leads and customer orders will be an integral part of the role.

Please send CV's to Debbie Robinson, Office Manager, Independent Computer Solutions Ltd (ICOS), 36-38 Carnaby Street, London W1V 1PD. Tel: 071 494 0010.

Temps! Temps! Temps! to £10.00/hour

We urgently need experienced temporary secretaries and receptionists to join our thriving teams in the West End and City. Experience on at least one of the following WP's is essential:
* Word for Windows
* AmiPro
* WordPerfect 5.1
* WordPerfect for Windows

If you have at least 2 year's experience, a positive and flexible approach and are looking to broaden your experience, call us for an immediate interview.
City: Victoria and Joyce: 0171 377 9919
West End: Liz, Lisa, Holly and Caroline: 0171 437 6032

HOBSTONES
RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS

PA/ SECRETARY

A confident, well organised senior secretary is required for a busy private property & building company. An eye for detail and the ability to work both as part of a team and under pressure are essential.

Please send CV, stating current salary, to:

Romulus Construction Ltd, Sandford House, 10 Maynard Close, Kings Rd, London SW6 2DB.

CLUTTONS
LONDON RESIDENTIAL AGENCY

SECRETARY REQUIRED - KNIGHTSBRIDGE OFFICE

As one of London's most energetic and exciting property companies we have a vacancy for a highly motivated individual with good organisational skills and typing of 60wpm. If you thrive on a busy atmosphere with variety, then this may be the job for you.

If you are interested in the above, please call or write to:-

Miss Pamela Curtis, Cluttons London Residential Agency, 7 Lower Sloane Street, Sloane Square, London SW1W 8AH.
Tel: 071 824 8822 Fax: 071 730 5331
NO AGENCIES

Sugar & Spice
c£15,000 p.a.

...and all things nice for a competent PA (Mid) with creative typing (WP5.1 & W4W) and an extrovert outlook. Looking after dynamic Manager of this expanding food outlet, you will be involved in all aspects of management, meetings, diaries, troubleshooting and projects, so a culinary interest would be a plus. Very lively, go-ahead set-up with plenty of scope!

JOYCE GUINESS PARTNERSHIP
0171 589 8807
RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS

LEGAL SECRETARIES
UP TO £28,000 + BENEFITS

Co. Commercial	£18,500 + Bens
Senior Float Sec	£20,000 + PRP
Litigation Sec	£18,500 + Bens
In-House Legal Sec	£20,000 + Bens

Contact Shoelagh Ratcliffe
Hillman Saunders Ltd (Rec Cons)
Tel: 0171 929 9797 Fax: 0171 929 1668

ASSISTANT EXECUTIVE SECRETARY:
c£18,000 + Pension

Supporting a small team running the International Federation of Gynecology and Obstetrics in Regent's Park you will be dealing with the representatives of over 90 countries, organising travel, meetings, newsletters, etc and providing information to medical professionals and their organisations.
You will need to be flexible, efficient, hard working, able to use own initiative, have first class secretarial skills (WP5.1), computer literacy, shorthand and excellent telephone manner. Knowledge of French/Spanish an advantage.
Please apply in writing enclosing CV to: Chantal Pradier, FIGO Secretariat, 27 Sussex Place, Regents Park, London NW1 4RG

Maine-Tucker
Recruitment Consultants

The World is your Oyster....
c£20-22,000 + Bonus + BUPA + Pens

...when you leap into action with this young MD as his "right-hand". No, you won't be spending much time with your typewriter (20% max) but you do need to be able to hit the ground running...So with one hand you can juggle projects delegated to you by your relaxed but seriously bright MD, whilst with the other hand you masterfully field the day-to-day admin. Your prospects? Limitless, its up to you! To fit in here you need to be sociable, switched-on & initiative is your middle name. You'll also need to like computers! With offices that stretch from Geneva to Hong Kong, being well travelled yourself is a must but if you happen to speak French you will leapfrog all the rest in the race for this prize. So if you are between 25 & 35 have 55 typing & want a job that is a pearl beyond price, start by calling us.

18-21 Jermyn Street, London SW1Y 6HP
Telephone 071 734 7341

Maine-Tucker
Recruitment Consultants

Bedfordshire/ Cambridgeshire Border Business and Marketing Assistant
£16-18,000 + Negotiable Package

The highly motivated Managing Director of a company that turns over in excess of 20 million in the UK alone has an immense challenge before him. To achieve it he needs a "right hand", a resourceful Assistant who can be a part of his brand new Management Team. The challenge? To assist this energetic man with every facet of the "Change Process" that this company must go through to achieve a leap in profitability. Your role is a dual one; on the one hand you are an ambassador, a facilitator, a person who follows through on the MD's initiatives; and on the other hand you are focused upon developing a Marketing Strategy with your MD. Your credentials must include at least 3 years experience gained at Director level as a PA and you will need accurate typing skills (very minimal typing). If you are between 25 & 35 the "development potential" of this job is outstanding. Can you meet the challenge?

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Telephone 071 734 7341

Maine-Tucker
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6 Mth Contract
VIDEO CONFERENCE MANAGER
Circa £18,000 + LV's + FLEXI HOURS

This is a way into legal you thought wasn't possible! Some of the most exciting legal cases in the world often involve our top legal people in this country. Using the latest technology, you as this prestigious legal's group Video Conferencing Studio Manager can co-ordinate vital video conferences for clients here and overseas, which means that some of this work is live! You are not a secretary but you will need keyboard skills for Microsoft Word, & you must be level headed to administrate a wealth of different cases. You'll have to work to hard, for you're responsible for what you do, and when you do it. It's your job to make these videos an essential part of any Barrister's case, & by doing this, you are actually making history yourself, by being involved in one of the most innovative ways of administering the law. A unique once in a life time opportunity makes this worth going for!

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Telephone 071 734 7341

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Are you a Senior Consultant frustrated with your current situation? Need more responsibility, increased status & rewards?! We are a leading bilingual agency looking to enhance our successful team with a career-minded, experienced Consultant. An excl support & training scheme is offered in return for commitment & a proven track record. Euro language prof, not ess. We offer an excl basic salary & expect your yearly earnings to well exceed £30K. Call, phone or fax in confidence to Christine Proctor:
Tel 0171 930 1811 Fax 0171 925 0056
Language Matters, Carrara Hse, 20 Embankment Pl, WC2N 6NN

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No hassles, No let-downs.. just a real appreciation for your work
c.£17,000 + BUPA + Den Plan

...may be you've been wondering if there are any 'normal' bosses out there (because yours isn't)...may be security of job is your top priority...or may be you just want a nice straightforward job with no hassles, no unnecessary stress, no let-downs & no overtime?. Look no further, you've found it! Come & work for this lovely, lively executive(one-to-one basis) in a beautiful W1 office. Your credentials? Just sound secretarial experience, good typing (60 wpm please) but there's no shorthand & you'd be really appreciated! If you are 21 to 35 this job won't let you down.

18-21 Jermyn Street, London SW1Y 6HP
Telephone 071 734 7341

Maine-Tucker
Recruitment Consultants

AMBITIONS
up to £20,000

In a small office in Piccadilly, sits a man who is going to turn this quiet but prolific international British office, into a major branch office in the future. However, he can't do it without an ambitious & dedicated PA (mid 20's+) by his side. In order to help the dream come true you'll need to be a PA (50wpm, computer literacy), Office Manager & General Manager (setting up systems, recruiting, office restructuring etc), but remember you're a very important person & when things take off, you'll be at the top. You must be an astute professional thinking person (opportunities for Client visits), independant (this is important), flexible & simply keen. If you would like to carve out a new & unusual career, please call.

18-21 Jermyn Street, London SW1Y 6HP
Telephone 071 734 7341

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EXECUTIVE PA
£23,000 + Bens

The Finance Director of the successful and internationally renowned Management Consultants requires the talents and drive of an experienced PA.

First class communication skills are essential as there will be a high level of contact with blue chip clients. Excellent administration and numerical skills will allow you the opportunity to manage your own research projects.

The successful candidate will have a consultancy background and be educated to at least 'A' level standard. SH/TO.

All applications are positively welcomed. Contact us now at Angela Mortimer plc (Rec Cons) on:

0171-726 8491

Angela Mortimer

RECRUITMENT CONSULTANT

I am looking for a capable, self-motivated, team spirited Consultant with Secretarial Recruitment experience, to run a desk dealing with a variety of placements. An excellent package and future prospects are offered.

Please ring (in confidence)
Mrs May Presser, Beauchamp Bureau - SW1
071 259 6999 (days) 081 789 7488 (eves)

SECRETARY - PR
£19,000 Package

This is an outstanding opportunity within the world-leading Consensus consultancy for a bright secretary to work within a dynamic public relations team. A first class communicator with the ability to prioritise a heavy workload, you will handle a wide range of office duties along with some own projects. You will be in frequent contact with clients and will enjoy variety and responsibility within a highly professional organisation.

A formally trained secretary, you will ideally have a proven track record (one to two in a busy company), together with the ambition to thrive in an exciting but pressured environment. Fluency in French is an advantage. For further details please contact Angela Mortimer plc (Rec Cons). All applications are positively welcomed.

0171-726 8491

Angela Mortimer

CJES
RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS
2 Lloyds Wall Gardens, London Wall, London EC2M 5PP
Tel: 0171 562 3570
Fax No. 0171-256 5061

High-profile role, which can develop significantly, depending on the creative input of the selected candidate

CJES

P.A. TO MANAGING DIRECTOR

CENTRAL LONDON £22,000 - £25,000

WELL KNOWN, LEADING SERVICES ORGANISATION

Applications are invited from well-educated candidates, likely to be in their early 30's, with excellent secretarial and organisational skills, including shorthand and w.p. You will have a minimum of 3-5 years experience working at Senior Director level in a large company environment, probably Service Industry/Merchant Banking. You will act as the right arm to the MD who has responsibility for a total of 5000+ employees both at HQ and other multi-site operations. Your duties will include:- the effective and pro-active management of the MD's time, drafting reports, writing speeches, and co-ordinating, leading and setting standards for the other Directors' secretaries. There will also be outside Non-Executive Director and personal work. Essential qualities are:- strong diplomatic and inter-personal/social skills, the ability to think and plan ahead and to have a sense of humour. Initial salary negotiable, £22,000-£25,000, contributory pension, free private health insurance, 25 days holiday, and season ticket loan. Applications in strict confidence under reference PAM800/TT to the Managing Director, CJES. Direct telephone 0171-256 5396

HEAD OF PERSONNEL
£40,000 - £50,000

Our client, a medium sized City law firm, seeks an experienced personnel professional to head up their personnel and training department. Ideally you will be a graduate, IPM qualified, with generalist, professional recruitment and training experience, preferably gained within a partnership (law/accountancy). For more details call Sue Venables on:-

0171 377 8600

SECRETARIES PLUS
The Secretarial Consultants

PA PLUS EALING - £20,000

Love variety? Can handle responsibility? Look after everything from bookkeeping, the car fleet and building maintenance to personnel administrator, running the offices of this small Ealing based subsidiary of a major international pharmaceutical firm. This is in addition to your Secretarial role and requires occasional UK travel. Initiative and flexibility essential, windows/spreadsheet experience useful. 5 weeks hols. Call Lyn Cecil on

071 439 7001

SECRETARIES PLUS
The Secretarial Consultants

Office Administration Manager

Package: c. £25-30,000 **Location: Covent Garden**

Harvey Nash has a remarkable story to tell. In seven years, we have built our business to become one of the UK's leading Executive Search and Selection companies. With a £14m turnover we enjoy an unparalleled rate of success and have a reputation that is the envy of the industry.

We now seek an individual to take responsibility for internal Administration service delivery, heading a varied team of approximately 10 secretaries, administrators and account support staff, you will need the following mix of skills:

- Computer literate, with the ability to motivate, drive and bind together a diverse team.
- Total commitment to the highest quality of administrative support coupled with a belief in continuous improvement.
- The intelligence and experience to be able to understand a complex and multi-faceted administrative workflow.
- The self-confidence and strength of character to address areas of weakness and drive through improvements.
- An understanding for detail, coupled with an ability to see the "bigger picture".
- A real appreciation of a client service driven organisation.

Our internal Administrative functions need to be highly efficient to support our aims. Consequently, we view this as a critical appointment, sometimes necessitating a 'hands-on' approach. We are looking for someone with energy, enthusiasm, commitment and desire to make a real difference. In return, the successful candidate, as part of the management team, will enjoy a high base salary, annual bonus and five weeks holiday, together with the authority and autonomy needed to deliver in this key role.

Please apply by enclosing an up to date CV, including full salary details and, where possible, a daytime telephone number to the Directors' PA – Marisa Rapacioli, at Harvey Nash Plc, Dragon Court, 27-29 Macklin Street, London WC2B 5LX. (Fax: 0171-333 0032) and quote reference number HN1467.

HARVEY NASH PLC

MERIDIAN
Executive Secretary up to £16,500 p.a.

A small company which manages a large property portfolio for an aristocratic family, requires a well organised and conscientious secretary to work for the Chief Executive. Good secretarial skills and a cheerful personality are required to work for this easy going boss in a traditional environment. W4W essential. Excel useful.

Please call Sandy Burton
0171 255 1555
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PA IN MUSIC/TV
£18,000

Assist the VP of this European TV network and liaise with cable operators + assist with the setting up of contracts. Demanding role within leading satellite company where an interest in sales & marketing (along with music/youth culture) is needed. Only graduates with fast sec skills, relevant exp and European language(s) considered.

0171 629 8863
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CALLING ALL BANKING SECRETARIES

Fabulous Opportunities £10,000 - £20,000 + banking benefits

Spring is 'the time for renewal and that can include the job front. There is nothing worse than spending 8 hours a day, if not longer, working in a role or environment which doesn't allow you to get fully involved. Why not work for a bank which would really appreciate you! Pan European has been retained by one of the leading City banks to build up its team of secretaries in the following positions. If you have 80 wpm shorthand (rusty), typing at 60 wpm and know WordPerfect 5.1 or Word for Windows, Excel or Lotus 123 & Freelance or PowerPoint - it could be time to move.

Sec - Communications & Media £19,000
Sec - Special Mandates £18,000
Sec - Fixed Income (no Sh) £18,000
Sec - Charities Team £17,000
Sec - Corporate Services £17,000
Sec - Fund Managers £17,000
Sec - Healthcare Division £17,000
Sec - Private Clients £17,000
Sec - UK Desk (no Sh) £16,000
Jun Sec - Chairman's Office £15,000
Director's Secretary £14,500
Sec - Administration £14,000
Sec - International Dept £14,000
Sec - Asset Backed Finance £12,000
Sec - Trading Floor £12,000
Office Junior £10,000

CALLING ALL TEMPORARY SECRETARIES

Variety is the Spice of Life

Are you bored with the same faces and the same routine? If you are looking for a challenge, involvement and have excellent secretarial skills, why narrow your search to just permanent opportunities? Our temps enjoy the chance to work 52 weeks a year at competitive rates, paid holidays and assignments in a variety of companies who are renown for offering temps permanent positions. If you have a minimum of a year's secretarial experience, are aged 20-30, have shorthand (an advantage) and 50 wpm typing - don't put up with second best! Call us now!

PAN EUROPEAN RECRUITMENT
Please call us on 0171-734 8484

S/HAND SECRETARY OFFICE MGR £18-£22K

Interesting sole charge role, extensive travel/ diaries & assist in setting up/running new dynamic office, some b/keeping. 55 wpm typ. 25-35 yrs.

Val Wade Rec Cons
0171 437 3793

ANTIQUES/MEDIA /DANCE/ DESIGN.

Pressure resistant PA Supersec to help creative but unstructured boss to run West End miniconglomerate. Must be float/shrewed/literate /numerate/peaceful___ and very very clever. £15-20K.

Fax CV's to 0171 435 8843.

LONG TERM TEMPS!

You will earn TOP RATES working in MAJOR COMPANIES - plus enjoy the support of a professional, committed team. All you need are excellent skills (including Windows or DTP) and a flexible approach. Phone Felicity Found at Tate Appointments on 0171 409 0424 NOW

Tate

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This pro-active and forward looking company, renowned for the services it provides to London's leading advertising agencies, has an exceptional opportunity for an ambitious office manager. Experience of accounts and quality control procedures preferred. 50wpm copy and audio. Age 25-40. Call Debbie.

PUBLISHING - NW3 £20,000 PKG

This dynamic company with offices in London & New York, requires a highly motivated and organised PA with S/H (100wpm), to provide support to the MD. An excellent standard of English is required for this highly confidential and responsible position. Administering corporate matters, this role offers a rewarding challenge. Call Richard

LEISURE - KEW £16,000 + BENS

Working for the Director of Corporate Accounts, this busy and varied role requires an intelligent PA. Your experience in a financial environment and knowledge of windows, will ensure a rewarding career with this progressive company. Age 25-35. Call Lara.

TEMPS/TEMPS/TEMPS to £10p/hr

Free X-training on latest WP Packages. Call Josie.

Telephone: 0171 831 9936
Fax: 0171 430 9111

PA/ INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ORGANISER

Dynamic MD of financial conference organisation needs a self motivated PA to be his right hand. Total involvement in organising international conferences. Age 26+ Excellent communication/ presentation skills. Good knowledge of W4W 6 + Databases (Pref MS Access) exs. City exp preferred but not vital.

Salary £16,500 to start.

Call Elizabeth Yorke
071 256 5364
or fax CV on
071 638 3365

AN EYE FOR RETAIL
£20,000

The senior management team within an elite retail organisation is seeking an outstanding PA. Commitment, enthusiasm and charm will enable you to keep pace with this exciting and expanding enterprise. Your genuine interest in business will enable you to contribute at senior level and to become an integral part of the organisation. Reporting directly to the CEO you will earn the respect of the team by efficiently liaising between city executives, manufacturers and suppliers. With at least one years experience and sound secretarial skills of 80/40wpm. This should be viewed as an exceptional career move. Please call us now.

£25-30,000

The Chief Executive Officer of this exclusive interior design company requires a global co-ordinator in its head office. This autonomous and totally diverse role requires a young dynamic PA with proven supervisory and senior level experience. Your tasks will vary from budgetary control to running property ventures, where you will be a vital communication link. Are you a dynamic, cosmopolitan individual with timely tuned interpersonal and outstanding organisational skills? If so, please call us now. 90/60wpm. Langs useful. Please call us now on

0171-726 8491

Angela Mortimer

TRUE PA
Fine Wines
c.£18,000 + Bo

Real proper senior PA role here where shorthand/ typing 90/60 is vital and good spoken French very useful while managing high profile and demanding Chairman & MD. 24-40. W1. Scope for an ambitious hard grafter.

Call 0171-287 2044/fax 287 3717.
Middleton Jeffers

GROUP PERSONNEL MANAGER
c.£25,000

Proactive professional (IPD) required to support Directors & Line Management in all aspects of Personnel Function. Ideal for experienced generalist with pragmatic, task oriented approach & confident communication skills. Age 30+.

Call 071 377 6777
Middleton Jeffers

ROOM AT THE TOP
£30,000 + exec bens.

Enjoy full PA role looking after delightful MD. Complexity organise his business life and assist with ad hoc projects. Intelligence, professionalism and personality are vital. Tip top skills (audio ess.), good education and WP (WP4W's pref).

Call 071 377 6777
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CAN YOU MEET THE CHALLENGE?

BASED IN MAYFAIR EXCELLENT BENEFITS AND CAREER PROSPECTS

We are a rapidly expanding executive search consultancy, founded in 1988. Our envious client base is a direct result of our ability to innovate in a dynamic and competitive market, coupled with professionalism and hard work. Why not use your exceptional secretarial skills as a platform into an exciting and rewarding career.

POSITION

- A "green field" opportunity to make your mark in this critical role.
- To provide full secretarial and administrative support to the business which will include the recruitment and training of a small high calibre team.
- To grow the role to include direct involvement with clients.

THE REQUIREMENTS

- Fast, accurate typing and in depth knowledge of WP5.1
- Exceptional organisational abilities.
- A mature, professional career minded individual who will share our passion for the business and who will thrive in our culture of continuous improvement.

Please contact Adele Walsh to discuss further.

LKG
LINDSAY KING GROUP
SEARCH AND SELECTION • AFRICA • ASIA • EUROPE • MIDDLE EAST • USA
17 ALBEMARLE STREET, MAYFAIR, LONDON W1X 4LU.
TELEPHONE 0171 355 1955 FAX 0171 355 1626

Regional Library Unit Co-ordinator

North Thames (West) Region

Salary range: £13,715 - £16,788 inclusive

The starting point will not exceed £15,553

Applications are invited from experienced secretaries/co-ordinators to manage the office of information professionals in the NHS.

If you are flexible and adaptable, with excellent secretarial and interpersonal skills, good computer experience (ideally Word for Windows) and want to be a valued member of a team, please telephone Mrs Shane Godbolt or Mrs Louise Jones on 0171 405 5667 for an informal discussion.

A job description is available on request (Personnel - 0171 404 2927). Applications in writing, accompanied by a curriculum vitae and the names of two referees, should be sent by 16 March to the Assistant Secretary - Personnel, British Postgraduate Medical Federation, 33 Millman Street, London WC1N 3EJ. Interviews will be held on the morning of Tuesday 21 March.

UNIVERSITY OF LONDON

Secretary to Partner
Competitive Salary and BUPA Healthcare

Progressive firm of Chartered Accountants and Corporate Finance Advisors based in EC1 require a competent and responsible secretary for Partner. Excellent organisational skills, together with the ability to use initiative and work efficiently within a team. Age: early 20's+. Experience in a similar environment useful but not essential. Knowledge of Lotus Ami Pro/ Windows preferable. Send covering letter and CV to:

Kingswood
Kingswood House
No.1 Clerkenwell Green
London EC1R 0DE
STRICTLY NO AGENCIES

KINGSWOOD

GRAYS & ASSOCIATES RECRUITMENT SERVICES

TRAIN INTO LEGAL £15,000 Liv St. Rare Opportunity for an ambitious Secretary with good Audio/copy skills and Wordprocessing exp, preferably Wordperfect 5.1 to work for this dynamic Solicitor. Your position will involve working on your own initiative and dealing with clients, organising meetings and agendas and various other duties.

TEAM SECRETARY £13,500 W1 Varied and challenging role within an international bank. Previous experience in a professional commercial environment and 50 wpm typing essential. You will be meeting clients so excellent presentation is very important to this friendly and welcoming team.

Tel: 071 580 6926 Fax: 071 580 6746
24 Store Street, London, WC1E 7BA

SECRETARY/ADMINISTRATOR
LONDON BRIDGE c£19,000

You will be a key team member within a successful and vibrant media business. This opportunity offers a varied and exciting challenge for a self motivated person with initiative and career ambition. Must be of smart appearance, confident manner and WP 5.1 experience.

Please reply with full cv to:
Vanessa Church, Rapida Group plc,
138-148 Tooley Street, London SE1 2TU
RAPIDA

3 PAs MUSIC TV
£17-18,000 Plus Perks

Exp'd PAs used to hectic and creative environments and having worked with 'Decision Makers' are urgently req'd by Euro Execs in Music/TV. Ess 50 wpm/Windows, prof Degree and language

Tel: 0171 493 8611
ALBANY APPOINTMENTS
5 Daring Street, London W1

Entrepreneur Superb salary

This type of position doesn't come along very often! Working closely with an extremely successful and interesting entrepreneur based in Chelsea, you will have ample opportunity to become totally involved in his many enterprises. His current project requires someone with superlative organisation skills, who is able to deal with any situation thrown at them, has proven ability of working on their own initiative and experience within the financial sector. Skills 60 wpm/MSWord for Windows/Excel. If you are motivated by a fast moving and business driven environment where your contribution will make an impact, call Esther Marsden on 0171 377 9919.

HOBSTONES
RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS

Publishing PA £18,000 NW London

This small expanding publishing co urgently need a PA for their MD who is very down to earth, dynamic and astute. He needs someone experienced (Age 26-35) to prioritise and administer corporate matters, liaise between Directors, set up systems and generate fresh ideas. You'll be highly motivated, outgoing with excellent secretarial and written skills (A levels, 55wpm. S'hand useful) and a CV to match this job spec! Please call Katy on 071 437 6032.

HOBSTONES
RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS

EXECUTIVE SECRETARY
£18,000 + MS + Bens

A rewarding and involving opportunity has arisen within this high profile American Bank. This position includes secretarial support to 2 Directors, office maintenance, organising travel, extensive client contact and full administrative back up. The ideal candidate will have 'A' Levels, 90 wpm shorthand and Word for Windows experience.

Please call Melinda Marks.

Jonathan Wren & Co Ltd,
No. 1 New Street, London EC2M 4TP
Tel No. 0171-623 1266 Fax No. 0171-626 1242

JONATHAN WREN SECRETARIES

OVERTIME PLUS
£17,000 + MS + Bens

Expanding high profile Merchant Bank has an immediate opening for a secretary with banking experience to work within Corporate Finance. Working for a team of Executives, the pace is extremely fast, so strong secretarial skills and a confident personality are prerequisites. Young, friendly crowd. Shorthand advantageous.

Please call Melinda Marks.

Jonathan Wren & Co Ltd,
No. 1 New Street, London EC2M 4TP
Tel No. 0171-623 1266 Fax No. 0171-626 1242

JONATHAN WREN SECRETARIES

Celebrity Speakers International Ltd Personal Assistant to our Director of European Operations

with the following qualifications and experience:

- previous PA experience essential
- self motivated and self disciplined
- sensitive and tactful
- often needs to work under pressure
- at ease communicating over the phone
- computer literacy
- fluent in English, with German and French

The remuneration is commensurate with this key position.

Please write to: Dagmar O'Toole, Director, CSI Ltd Studio 111, Canalot, 222 Kensal Road, London W10 5BN

EXPERIENCED PA/SECRETARY

Required for the MD and Marketing Manager of a well established retail optical group based in North East London. Ideally you will be 30+ with initiative, good communication skills and the ability to work as part of a team. Spreadsheet experience and WP 5.1 would be an advantage.

Please send C.V. to Barbara Ling,
Ronald Brown Group Plc,
581 Lea Bridge Road, London E10 6AJ

PRIVATE CLIENTS

The MD of a young, dynamic established Investment Business needs a secretary who can help organise his work so that he can spend more time looking after clients. You must be flexible, 25-35, have solid WP skills and be prepared to learn other IT applications. Your work will also involve some admin. Excellent package depending on experience.

Apply in writing to: Jamie Berry, Berry Asset Management Plc, 113 The Chambers, Chelsea Harbour, London SW10 0XF.

PA to Directors
c£17K

Delightful but fast-moving MD and Sales Director need well-presented, flexible secretary to organise extensive travel schedules and carry out all usual duties. Very varied position in dynamic sales environment, so you need to be calm, confident, hard-working and good humoured! Reliable spelling/grammar, W4W and excellent telephone manner needed. Established, successful and expanding company with attractive (no smoking) offices. CV plus daytime number to: Nora Hutson, Petrochem UK Ltd, Rowan Court, 56 High Street, Wimbledon Village, London SW19 5EE. (No agencies please)

£24,000 P.A.

Is there anybody out there who is London based, a non-smoker, a top Secretary/PA and who wants to work as a member of a small, happy team in the Holborn Circus area?

I need somebody educated to A* level standard. Numeracy, trustworthiness, a good nature and sense of humour essential. Must have Pitman S/H 100 wpm. Age 25-35.

Ring 0171 404 3111

NO AGENCIES

HEADBOURNE WORTHY HOUSE
WINCHESTER
ADMINISTRATOR/SECRETARY

Mature, experienced PA/Secretary to board level required to assist Administrator with a view to taking over in 3 years' time. Must be a dedicated & well rounded person with full secretarial training, proven office management, good communication skills, computer literate and numerate.

Headbourne Worthy House is a unique retirement village with 49 cottages and a 31 bedded nursing home.

Write enclosing C.V. to Mrs A Lywood, Headbourne Worthy House, Winchester SO23 7JG.

FURNISHED LETTINGS ADMINISTRATOR

We need an ablitious and efficient person to join our Management team, to control the day to day admin and bookkeeping of our increasingly successful Sales and Letting Agency.

Accounts and Computer Literacy essential.

Someone with concern for people, an interest in creating future business for this independant agency, and satisfaction in working with a team to achieve an efficiently run department required.

Competitive Salary.

Send CV to: Kate Cheshire
Tates, 135 Hammersmith Road, London W14 0QL

Career moves
ANTIQUES Part-Time Secretary
SECRETARY

TO ADVERTISE CALL: 0171 481 9994

LA CRÈME DE LA CRÈME

FAX: 0171 481 9313

Compliance Administrator
£18-20,000 + Benefits

This is a new vacancy within a small, extremely prestigious firm of city based investment bankers. You will be assisting a Director, providing full admin. support and dealing with compliance issues. Strong exposure to SFA regulations are all essential. Lots of potential to develop a career. Call Emily Aldrich on 0171 588 8999 or Fax c.v.'s on 0171 588 8998

Aldrich – Recruitment Consultants

Marketing/Banking Secretary
£15,000

Join the marketing team of an International Group of Fund Managers. Lots of telephone work, liaising with clients, organising in-house lunches, seminars etc. You must enjoy working as part of a team, have a flexible approach and fast typing and will ideally have some banking experience. Age 18-25. Call Sarah Turnbull on 0171 588 8999 or fax c.v.'s on 0171 588 8998

Aldrich – Recruitment Consultants

career moves

RESEARCHER - MEDIA EXEC SEARCH c£20,000

With good knowledge of the media industry or exp of working in Exec Search you will join a well known team that needs a researcher who can use their initiative and work under pressure. Exc prospects and remuneration for the right person.

TV LEGAL CONTRACTS CO-ORDINATOR to £18,000

An interest in TV, a degree, some legal and or media exp plus mac skills will see you making an interesting move. Help draft contractual agreements, regulations and compliance, research and legal translations. A team player with initiative ess.

JNR SEC TO WELL KNOWN ENTREPRENEUR £13,000 Plus Bens

With 6-12 months sec exp, excellent presentation, good speech and willingness to work as part of a close knit team for this well known alternative media personality /entrepreneur. S/H or speedwriting ess. Exc travel benefits.

124 Great Portland Street, London W1N 5PF • Tel: 0171 636 6411 • Fax: 0171 636 2457



KINNERTON CONFECTIONERY

(a) Operations Secretary £16,000 + Bonus

(b) Sales Secretary £16,000 + Bonus

to work in lively medium-sized confectionery company. Candidates must have excellent shorthand/ typing (100/60), together with a thorough working knowledge of Word-perfect 5.1. Must be able to work under pressure with ability to prioritise workload.

Apply in writing to:
Ms Olive Canavan, P.A. to Managing Director
Kinnerton (Confectionery) Company Limited
49 Marylebone High St, London W1M 4EB
Fax: 0171 487 3319/0171 935 7549

PERSONNEL
To £18,000 aae

As secretary to the personnel manager of this successful City Firm, you will provide full secretarial support, help organise inductions and work experience programmes, arrange interviews as well as keeping records and statistics. Previous personnel experience preferred. Ability to remain calm and efficient whilst coping with large volumes of paperwork and typing, often under pressure, essential. Ideally aged: 25-35 Skills: 70 typing

The Recruitment Company
0171 831 1220

A YOUNG CITY TRADE ASSOCIATION

is looking for 2 confident, capable audio secretaries with Word 6 Windows experience - one position will be full-time, the other part-time. You must be prepared to deal with anything and everything from member liaison through to producing industry papers. Both positions require a very flexible attitude, alongwith a 'roll the sleeves up' mentality, as your working day will be dictated by the needs of this fast moving industry! Age is immaterial, so long as you have a good sense of humour and are prepared to work long hours when necessary.

A competitive salary and benefits are offered.

Please apply in writing, (including a current CV) to Barbara Forster, Futures and Options Association, Roman Wall House, 1-2 Crutched Friars, London EC3N 2AN

PA/ADMINISTRATOR

A unique opportunity for a well educated, mature, reliable person, able and confident to take on the responsibility for organising the London office of an entrepreneur with diverse interests.

As well as possessing a high level of secretarial skills you should be numerate, used to dealing with travel arrangements and be able to adapt to whatever is required to ensure the smooth running of a small office.

Please write enclosing a full curriculum vitae to Barbara Duffy, 5th Floor, 6 Arlington Street, St. James's, London SW1A 1RE.

Previous applicants need not re-apply.

career moves

TEMP RECEPTIONISTS FOR TELEVISION

An opportunity to temp at a cable and satellite television that is growing by the minute. Join a team of three as a jnr receptionist. Happy to look at someone with 6 months exp who may want to move on in time. Good presentation and fresh faced look. Temp to Perm (c£12,000).

124 Great Portland Street, London W1N 5PF • Tel: 0171 636 6411 • Fax: 0171 636 2457



ANTIQUES
Part-Time Secretary

Atique Showroom based in SW London wishes to appoint an Assistant to work 3 days a week. 9.30 - 5.30. Preferably mid thirties to mid forties, the position would possibly suit someone returning to work and will encompass daily administration and secretarial duties, requiring proficiency on a word processor (preferably Applemac).

Call Sue Doughty (Rec Con)
0171 491 7911

SECRETARY

The small Executive Office of an international, charitable organisation for research, information, publications, education, based in Soho, seeks secretary. Sound experience (Wordperfect 5.1), flexible, capable of taking initiative, good organisational skills; excellent English; other language(s) an advantage. Non-smoker. Please forward CV to: FDI World Dental Federation, 7 Carlisle Street, London W1V 5RG or fax 0171 486 0183

SECRETARY - Wembley Area

Required to work for Finance and Sales Directors. Applicants must have solid secretarial background with excellent shorthand and audio typing; knowledge of Word for Windows and/or Uniplex would be an advantage, company will cross train.

Salary: circa £15K + benefits
Age: 25 +

Please send CV to: Tracy Brand, Binatone Electronics plc, Binatone House, 1 Beresford Avenue, Wembley, Middlesex, HA0, 1YX.

£20,000 +
PA TO CHAIRMAN

A very rewarding role as you will be at the heart of the business utilising all of your skills. The Chairman travels extensively & has a lot of high level contacts both in the U.K. & abroad. This job can sometimes be a juggling act requiring tenacity & patience. Skills 100/60

Call 0171-439 3189
Rec Cons

PERSONNEL SEC
circa £15,000

The very busy Personnel Manager of an International Adevrtising Agency seeks a competent Secretary for their lively personnel team. Previous experience in a similar environment is useful but not essential. The role is varied and includes; arranging travel, diaries, training, interviews and becoming totally involved in every aspect of the personnel function. If you have good secretarial skills (audio and word processing) and wish to make a career in Personnel then ring for an early interview.

RAINBOW RECRUITMENT

TEL: 071 491 7252 FAX: 071 491 2887
Rainbow House, 12 South Molton Street
London W1Y 1DF

ROEDEAN
Admissions Secretary

Required to work on own initiative in busy office, taking responsibility for the administration of all admissions to the School, including Common Entrance. Candidates must have excellent public relations skills, a courteous and efficient approach and possess good office and communication skills.

Please apply with full CV and the names of two referees to: Director of Admissions, Roedean School, Brighton, Sussex, BN2 5RQ.

TELEVISION MARKETING - £24,000

Our charasmatic client heads up an international television marketing company where his dynamic style has made them world leader. He needs a graduate PA interested in business to act as his alter ego, to process matters while he is travelling and to be an integral part of his management team. Age 25-35. Skills 100/70.

DIRECTORS' SECRETARIES
071 629 9323

BRUSSELS
BFr 845,000 pa

Multi-talented Secretary to support exec and team, handle reception and other office-running duties. A great organiser, not averse to pressure. Good French. 1 return flight per year.

LONDON
PA - to £20K

Right hand to Chairman of firm of architects. Well organised and always cool, calm and collected under pressure. Excellent skills including English shorthand, German a plus. 28-35.

Multilingual Services
071 836 3794

Merton Associates

Executive Search Secretary c£18,000+

Bright, sparky and highly organised individual required for our very successful financial services team. Strong keyboard and telephone skills essential.

Merton Associates is one of the UK's leading Executive Search consultancies.

Please reply to Linda Barr, Merton Associates Ltd, Merton House, 70 Grafton Way, London W1P 5LE or by fax on 0171 387 5324. Tel 071-388 2051. No Agencies.

PA TO CHIEF EXEC
£22,000

Major International PR Consultancy seek a calm, professional shorthand PA to assist their new CEO and ensure the smooth running of his busy office. This demanding and highly confidential role will suit a candidate with similar experience and top social/secretarial skills.

8171 629 8863
HODGE RECRUITMENT

PA TO MD SW1
£17,500 - £18,000 + £700
Clothes Allowance + Exc Bonus.

Shorthand (120wpm) Word for Windows 6.0. Age 25-30. To work for MD of a PLC Property Company. Dealing with correspondence, reports, travel and meeting arrangements plus some marketing work. A very bright and cheerful team.

The Property Appointments Register.
0171 499 7388
34, South Molton St, London, W1Y 2BP

SENIOR SECRETARY TO DIRECTOR

Our Client who have their Head Office in Weybridge, have asked us to recruit on their behalf a Senior Secretary to Director of Planning. An opportunity has arisen to work for this superb company ideally you will be educated to 'A' level standard and possess shorthand speeds in excess of 80wpm coupled with experience of WordPerfect 6 for Windows, Freelance and Lotus. You will have a mature approach to your work routine and not be a clock watcher. In return you will enjoy a challenging role working for the Director of Planning. The role involves a high degree of confidentiality, good organisational and Secretarial skills and be able to prioritise a heavy workload. A financial background would be advantageous, the excellent remuneration package will incude Salary c£17,000 pa. 25 days holiday & pension scheme.

All applications should be made via March Personnel Ltd, Pearl Assurance House, High Street, Woking, Surray, GU21 1YJ. Tel: 01483 727282. Fax: 01483 740605.

LEGAL SECRETARY
£20,000 + benefits

An excellent opportunity for a skilled Legal Secretary with large City Firm experience, to join a small expanding, friendly team, in what can only be described as the best office environment in town.

081 514 2225 RODWELL RECRUITMENT

MULTI-LINGUAL OPPORTUNITIES

FRENCH & GERMAN PA - Surrey A3 location. Excellent salary. Director Level Secretary required for President of this Blue Chip Company.

ITALIAN PA - Hants - Int'l. Co. seek a Senior Secretary for Business Director with excellent communication skills

TRANSLATORS required for multinational Co. in Slough. Fluent in German 1th one other European language Salary circa £18,000 plus bonus.

Euro London Appointments
Call 071 583 0180
or fax 071 353 9849

Be In At The Start
to £24,000

For an international management consultancy setting up a new UK joint venture, finding the right person to run the office is extremely important. Such a position calls for a computer-literate & highly motivated individual who can deal tactfully & confidentially with clients & consultants alike. If your CV demonstrates the administrative expertise upon which a start-up of this kind depends, your reward will be the certainty that you are contributing to the company's success and growth. European languages desirable. Please call Sabina Stewart TODAY on 0171 434 4512

Crone Corkill
Multilingual

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is currently recruiting qualified secretaries, assistants and PAs for exciting and challenging positions at the international headquarters of many major Anglo-Saxon and French companies, law firms, advertising agencies, etc.

- Fluent French imperative
- Word Processing skills a must
- Help with lodging available

Please call Maud Potet or Brigitte Jolly for details on 010 33 1 42 61 82 11 or come direct to 12, rue de la Paix, 75002 Paris

BILINGUAL RUSSIAN/ENGLISH SECRETARIES £16,000-£22,000 + bens

3 opportunities for professional secretaries with translation skills and typing 50wpm minimum to work for international co's based in Central London. 12 months sec exerience minimum essential.

Call Natasha Krasnoff for more information on 0171 287 6060.

Boyce Agency

Tel: 071 287 6060 Fax: 071 494 4652

THE RITZ

PA IN FASHION
(WITH FRENCH)
c.£25,000 + BENS

Assist the young MD of this International Fashion company and utilise your fluent French and interpersonal/ organisational skills to the full. Liaise with all European offices and deal with customer correspondence in a true all-rounders role. 60 wpm WP.

Contact:
Sara Springer
on 0171 - 629 4343

RITZ RECRUITMENT

PA IN FASHION
c£22,000

Highly capable, organised & flexible PA with fluency in ideally German or Spanish sought by dynamic Fashion Accessory co in W London to assist at Executive level. Extremely varied & involved role within busy Marketing Dept. Excellent secretarial skills & solid senior PA experience essential.

The Language Business
071-379 3189 (rec cons)

Executive Secretary/P.A Management Office of Engineering & Trading Company located in Switzerland, seeking a Bi-Lingual Executive Secretary /P.A. Age 30 - 45, independent, proven experience in the international business field, occasional travel involved.

Please submit photo & CV to Box No 4138.

SUPER SECRETARIES

Commitment, Drive & Energy
£16,000 + bonus + o/time

If the idea of working within a dynamic, fast-moving corporation where your skills & experience will be stretched to the max, sounds too good to be true, then please take the initiative! Our client, a major US organisation is looking for a committed & enthusiastic secretary to work in their London office. This is the perfect opportunity for a 2nd jobber wanting to become more involved. Duties include full secretarial & administrative support, client liaison etc. Typing 50 wpm. Windows experience essential. Call Gordon Yates Consultants 0171 493 5787 now!

Kensington, Chelsea & Mayfair to £16,000

Not for shrinking wallflowers!! Three opportunities have arisen for well presented and well spoken secretaries to join one of London's Top property companies. To join this crazy bunch of chaps you should be young, energetic with a friendly outgoing personality and enjoy using your excellent typing skills. There's no pressure! You can type 5+ up to 70% of the day and also get to deal with their clients and organise various activities. 60wpm and W4W required.

Call Anderson Hoare on 0171 824 8821

Mayfair Headhunters
- £21,000+++

This highly successful International company, based in stunning offices in Mayfair is looking for a true PA/right hand person to run the hectic life of the MD. Ideally, a charming & demanding personality. Tip-top skills of 100/60 & W4W are essential, as is the ability to work well under pressure, fully utilising your exceptional communication skills to liaise with VIP clients & candidates. You will be friendly, efficient & professional and enjoy an all involving 1:1 PA role.

Call Anderson Hoare on 0171-824 8821

EXCELLENT Opportunity for Secretary/Accounts vacancy in busy Estate Agents close to Gloucester Road Tube. Salary £12,500.00 Please telephone 071 581 0164.

EXEC Search PA £20,000 + Bonus. Professional (but not stuffy), demanding (but appreciative) - the Managing Partner of this small, successful consultancy seeks a well spoken PA to organise him and to become the focal point for clients & candidates. Fast audio skills, sense of humour & under 30? call for full details 0171 629 8863, Hodge Recruitment

EXECUTIVE Secretary/ Office administrator for small but expanding project planning group. The applicant should have good computer skills especially with Microsoft Office, displaying initiative, organisational skills & a sense of humour. Send CV & Photograph to Fiona 74 South Audley Street, London W1Y 5FF

EXPERIENCED Receptionist £17,000 Join this small, prestigious consultancy as part of a friendly team. You will liaise at executive level and generally oversee reception and company security. Maturity and a smart, professional presentation is essential. Ideally age 30-45 years. Please telephone 0171 629 9829 Elizabeth Hunt Recruitment Consultants

FINCHLEY Road. PA to MD upto £20000. Outstanding career opportunity exists to join this dynamic, fast growing international publishing company. The MD is looking for a resourceful, proactive and professional PA who wants a challenging role with varied duties including administering corporate matters, setting up a new systems and providing all round secretarial support. If you have a sound track record at senior level with excellent skills (80/60) and are 28-35 please call Sonia Yusaf on 0171-434-4512 Crone Corkill Recruitment Consultants.

HARLEY Street - The London Clinic. Surgeon requires well educated secretary with excellent audio and WP skills. The candidate must be self confident, of smart appearance, reliable and have an excellent telephone manner. The post is very interesting, varied but demanding. Salary £18,500+ for confidential person. Full CV to DGD, London Clinic, 149 Harley St, London W1N 1HG

HOT Property! Sec. 23+ for busy position in lively West End firm. Loads of audio of course, + the ever ringing phones. Must have 70+ wpm & WP6.1. £16,500. Call 071 439 7001, Secretaries Plus - the secretarial Consultants.

IS This You... Over 25, Smart, Self starter, Bubbly, Good telephone manner. Can organize yourself and others, can type a good letter, have an interest in Photography and want to earn good money. We could have a job for you in Fulham SW6 - Call 071 941 0899

KEW - £16,000 - International well known company (with HQ in Mayfair) require secretary (Age 26-35) to work in the senior office for the Director of Accounting and the team. You need a sense of humour, good organisational skills, team spirit and good sec skills (65wpm, M'soft Word). Hrs 9-5pm plus benefits - ideal if you want to work locally! Please call Kate on 071 437 6032, Hobsons Rec cons.

MOST of the summer off? PA/Secretary for small consultancy based in SW1. Good typing and shorthand essential. Extended holidays while Principal away. Salary £16,000 pro rata. Send CV to Office, 54 Buckingham Gate, London SW1.

2nd Jobber Secretary/Admin Assistant. Prestigious organisation SW1. £14,500 aae. If you believe that variety is the spice of life this is the job for you! Duties include audio typing, databasing, relief reception, assisting at conferences & preparing mailshots. Reporting to Office Manager you will have the opportunity to work in all depts. Flexibility, superb communication skills, good typing (min 60wpm), knowledge of WordPerfect 5.1 & 6 min sec exp essential. Rachel on 636 1495, Beavers Ltd (Rec Cons).

NO Pressure, utter luxury, great variety! See how the other half lives as secretary to this shipping family. Flexibility and a pleasant personality are key. Age 30's-40. Mayfair. £16,000. Call 071 439 7001 Secretaries Plus the Secretarial Consultants

PA/OM Mgr for small trading co dealing with eastern Europe & Asia. Exclusive W.1. offices req. special. well pres person to match! team-spirited & flex with. M'soft W'DW4 (Excel an adv) 27-35 yr £18K + PPP 071 222 5091 Norma Skemp Rec

PA/Secretary to MD. For a busy & growing company designing & producing corporate literature for city based clients. Must be well organised & self motivated with excellent customer service skills. Ability to work well under pressure. Proficiency in Wordperfect (Apple Mac) 40/60wpm typing required. Age 24+. Salary negotiable. Please apply in writing with full CV to Michael Brown, Managing Director, Reporting Matters Ltd, Europoint, 5 - 11 Lavington Street, London SE1 0NZ

PA/Sec regd - Chartered Surveyor working from home. Common sense, initiative, W4W, fast acc audio essential. Prev bldg Surveying work helpful. Hours and salary negotiable. Send/fax CV to Myles Elliott, 41 Ravenscourt Road, London W6 0UJ (Fax 081-748 9682).

PA/Secretary. 24-40's for senior partner of accountants who specialises in music industry. Word for Windows and financial background essential. £17,500. Call 071 439 7001. SECRETARIES PLUS - the Secretarial Consultants.

PR Sec c£13,500 suit 21+ with 1 yrs exp for PR Manager. Tavistock Appts 071 836 6886

PUBLISHING Secs are you on our books? Covent Garden Bureau 071 498 8822.

PA To Finance Director of top City Law firm. Previous financial senior sec & spreadsheet exp ess. If you have 5 GCSE'S (C+) & are 28-40yrs. enjoy responsibility, variety, superb bens & £25K. Ph. Alfred Marks 071-236-6832. (Rec Cons).

PERSONNEL to £18,000. Croydon. International engineering company seeks an experienced Personnel Administrator to 'hold the fort'. The role is varied: responsibility for recruitment and training, pension schemes, insurance and healthcare are just a few of your duties! A flexible attitude together with excellent secretarial organisational and communication skills will ensure your success in this position. Fully IPD/IPM Qualified. 50wpm typ. Age 27-45. Please call Jane or Katy on 0171 437 6032, Hobsons Rec Cons.

PERSONNEL - Recently qualified IPD (aged 23/24+) wanted for City company who are tenders for a disabled product. If you want a career in personnel, then this position will cover all aspects of personnel that you enjoy. In addition to £16,000 you'll receive 23 days hols + pens + STL + pd o/t + more. Maine-Tucker, 0171 734 7341

PROPERTY Sec (x4) W1 £14-£16.5K Famous property company urgently seek applicants with: W4Wp (80 wpm), style, aplomb, social awareness & excellent diction. Pses become negotiator. Call Liz Now 071 493 4993 Tobias Recruitment (1 min Bond St Tube)

PUBLIC Affairs Asst. Know Whitehall? Media Friendly? Lite Political? to £14-cE19,000 071 630 0500 (rec)

SECRETARY/PA required for Chairman of independent business travel agency. Must be well presented & well spoken. Duties include typing, shorthand & filing plus also writing newsletter & press releases - experience of which would be advantageous. Good knowledge of WP 6.1 and Pagemaker preferred. Lotus 123 & Paintbrush would be useful. Good salary & conditions. Please write with CV, stating typing & shorthand speeds, to Box No 4361

SECRETARY to MD c£20,000 neg. Stanmore. Must have worked at Senior Director level within a large organisation. A level education and ability to liaise at all levels. Prospects 0181 952 5545. (Agy)

STAINES c£20,000 Are you energetic and want to use your initiative? As PA to the Managing Director of this leading international engineering company, your hectic day will include organising conferences and exhibitions. 90wpm shorthand and Microsoft Word for Windows essential. Please call Lizzey Hallett on 0171 434 4512 Crone Corkill Rec Cons

STANMORE, Middlesex. P.A., 30-50 for demanding role for M.D. Experience in heavy industry absolutely essential. £20,000 + 5 weeks holiday ++. 071 439 7001, Secretaries Plus - the secretarial Consultants.

STUNNING Surround'g & splendid lunch for well pres & ed sec/admin to wrk for world-renowned figure in SW1. Excl 1st nuance + typ min 55 wpm & W4W esp. Capable of prioritis'g imp & interest'g correspondence. Age: late 20's-45. Norma Skemp Rec: 071 222 5091

UNUSUAL Opportunity. Established Knightsbridge Antique Dealer seeks highly competent Secretary/PA for varied long term position. Previous experience not essential. c.16K. Please Reply to Box No 4316

WINKWORTH Estate Agents seek a PA/Administrator for their Central Lettings office in Kensington. This is a new position requiring a confident manner, good administrative skills, ability to prioritise and to communicate well in person and on the telephone. As the hub of the office you will need to be calm and enjoy the challenge of co-ordinating the busy day to day operation. WordPerfect for Windows 6.1 preferred and knowledge of database useful. Starting salary £14-16,000 pa. Please telephone Teresa Poyzer on 0171-727 1500 or send your CV to Winkworth, 118 Kensington Church Street, London W8 4BH. (No Agencies)

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Agent owes duty of care to future names

Aitken and Others v Stewart Wrightson Members Agency Ltd and Others

Before Mr Justice Potter

[Judgment February 10]

A members' agent did not owe a duty of care in tort, concurrent with his contractual duty of care, to his Lloyd's name and accordingly he was not liable for the negligence of the managing agent to whom the underwriting functions had been delegated.

A managing agent owed a duty of care to *future names* even though he had not acted for those names at the time of negligence.

Mr Justice Potter so held in the Queen's Bench Division when determining the preliminary issues involved in a claim by P. J. Aitken and other members of five Lloyd's syndicates against Stewart Wrightson Members Agency Ltd, and other members' agents of the syndicates, for breach of contract and negligence and against Pulbrook Underwriting Management Ltd, the syndicates' managing agents, for negligence.

The claim arose out of a contract for *run-off reinsurance made in* 1981 between the syndicates and the underwriter of Syndicate 418 which agreed to provide aggregate excess loss reinsurance with effect from 1981 in respect of all liability which the syndicates might incur on its 1975 and earlier years of account.

In 1989 Syndicate 418 avoided the contract of reinsurance on the ground that Pulbrook had failed to disclose various matters material to the assessment of the risk *underwritten*. An arbitration award held that Syndicate 418 had lawfully avoided the contract.

The syndicates claimed that Pulbrook owed a duty of care in and about the management of the syndicates' underwriting at Lloyd's and that such duty was broken by, inter alia, the non-disclosure.

As against the members' agents it was contended that by reason of Pulbrook's negligence, they were liable to the syndicates for breach of contract, *subject to any defence* of limitation, and that in any event they were liable in tort on the basis of a non-delegable duty of care. The tortious basis of liability against the members' agents was important in respect of limitation.

The underwriters had closed off the 1975 to 1984 underwriting years of account. However, the 1985 account was left open due to the repudiation of liability by the reinsurer.

The effect of the Lloyd's system of annual reinsurance to close (RITC) was to transfer the burden *of liabilities for 1975 and prior* years to the members of the syndicates for each succeeding year up to the 1985 year of account. Subsequently there were calls on the 1985 year and predicted losses were in the order of £85 million.

The syndicates contended that if full disclosure had been made, a run-off reinsurance contract on different terms to that arranged would have been concluded.

Mr Nicholas Strauss, QC and Mr Adam Fenton for the names: *Mr Jonathan Sumption*, QC and Mr Julian Flaux for the members' agents; Mr Jeremy L. Cooke, QC and *Mr Rory Phillips* for Pulbrook.

MR JUSTICE POTTER said that in the light of *Henderson v Merrett Syndicates Ltd (The Times July 26 1994; [1994] 3 WLR 761)*, the members' agents conceded that subject to their defence of limitation *they were contractually* liable in respect of the negligence of Pulbrook. However, the members' agents denied the syndicates' assertion that, in addition, there existed a parallel and co-extensive duty of care in tort.

The members' agents submitted that the syndicates' submission in respect of a tortious liability ran contrary to the well established principle of tort that a person was not generally liable for the negligence of a properly employed and *apparently competent independent* contractor, even where that person had employed the contractor to do work he would otherwise have been bound to so himself, unless that person's duty was a non-delegable duty of care.

The members' agents submitted that the authorities on non-delegable duty of care did not apply in the present case because, inter alia, there was an express contractual right to delegate the entire underwriting function to the managing agents.

The syndicates, however, did not draw an analogy with the established categories of non-delegable duty but said rather that the personal and non-delegable contractual duty of care owed to the names defined also the nature and extent of their duty in tort.

His Lordship adopted the exposition on that area of law of Mr Justice Le Dain in *Central Trust Co v Rafuse* ((1986) 31 DLR (4th) 481, 521-522), that, inter alia, the nature and scope of the duty of care asserted as the foundation of the tortious liability must not depend on specific obligations or duties created by the express terms of the contract.

Applying that case to the instant case the syndicates were in a position *where the common* law duty of care on which they relied was one that fell short of the specific obligation or duty imposed by the express terms of the contract unless that common law duty of care could be shown to be non-delegable in character for the purposes of the law of tort.

That being so, his Lordship said, the question arose whether the relationship of a Lloyd's name and his members' agent in the context of the agreed practice of the market *was one which for policy reasons* and/or by analogy with other established heads of non-delegable duty, gave rise to a duty not merely to exercise care in respect of the names' general interests but also to ensure that care was being taken by the managing agents.

His Lordship considered the authorities on non-delegable duty, distinguishing the case of *Cynat Roberts v Landbuild* ([1984] 3 All ER 513), and concluded that there were no policy provision which *dictated any finding of non-delegable* duty.

As to which syndicate names Pulbrook's duty of care was owed, his Lordship said that there was no direct contractual relationship between the syndicates and Pulbrook, which carried out its underwriting functions under the terms of a sub-agency agreement. The form of that agreement was not *materially different from that* in the case of the indirect names in *Henderson v Merrett Syndicates*.

The issue arose in the present case as to whether the duty of care in tort owed by Pulbrook to the syndicates was confined to the names immediately liable in respect of the 1979 year of account or whether it extended to names in subsequent years who only became *liable* in respect of the *1979* year pursuant to RITC arrangements.

At the time the run-off reinsurance was effected Pulbrook were retained and acting not only for the 1979 names but for the 1980 and 1981 names.

In so far as Pulbrook was obliged to protect and further the interests of the 1979 names when deciding whether and by what steps to close the 1979 year of account, Pulbrook equally had a duty to safeguard the interests of the subsequent years for whom they were at all times acting.

The decision to effect the run-off reinsurance and the steps taken to *that end would inevitably affect the* future conduct of the underwriting business of the subsequent years. In his Lordship's view, in placing the run-off reinsurance, Pulbrook owed a duty of care not only to the 1979 names but also to those of 1980 and 1981.

Pulbrook submitted that whatever might be the position in respect of members of those years, names who did not become members of the syndicates until after that time did not satisfy the test of *proximity and/or* of liability which it was just and reasonable to impose: see *Caparo v Dickman* ([1990] 2 AC 605, 620-623) per Lord Bridge of Harwich.

His Lordship said that when *considering* whether a duty of care admittedly owed by A to B in respect of a particular transaction extended also to a third party, C, who suffered damage as a result of its negligent performance, the appropriate approach was, as the parties had argued, on the basis of *the threefold test in Caparo v Dickman*.

In his Lordship's view, it was foreseeable that *the syndicates as* constituted from time to time would rely on the run-off reinsurance at the end of each succeeding year when effecting RITC on the basis that any subsequent claim in respect of prior years would be covered by such reinsurance. In *effecting that RITC, Pulbrook* would be acting for both the names for the closing year and for the next open year.

The situation in the present case was wholly different from the strictures imposed against liability to an indeterminate amount, to an indeterminate class for an indeterminate period: see *Caparo v Dickman* per Lord Bridge (at p622).

The reality was that there was a clear intention on the part of Pulbrook to effect insurance for the benefit of the syndicates in future years. His Lordship said, that as was demonstrated by *Punjab National Bank v de Boinville* ([1992] 1 WLR 1138) the court would look at the real intention and anticipation of the parties to see where the true effect of the damage likely to arise would be felt.

The position of future members of the syndicates was analogous in that respect to the bank as assignee in that case in that *they would* inevitably be persons affected at whatever time in the future the run-off insurance was avoided for non-disclosure.

Although the members' agents in legal form delegated to managing agents in respect of each separate name, the reality was that the managing agent had a collective client, the syndicates.

While the membership might alter from year to year it did not change the essential identity of the client nor did it alter the continuing existence and interests of the syndicates which the managing agent *was appointed to protect*.

Since it was at all times anticipated and intended that the RITC procedure would be repeated annually on the assumption that the run-off reinsurance remained valid, his Lordship could see no reason in fairness, justice or logic why the duty of care should be confined to the 1979 and 1981 years or why it should not extend to cover the entire class of persons whose interests the run-off reinsurance was intended to protect.

The *extension of the duty of care* to all syndicate members post-1981 was a justifiable increment on *lines anticipated in Caparo v Dickman*. Accordingly there was a duty of care in respect of all syndicates' names for the 1985 year of account.

The duty of care owed by Pulbrook in conducting the underwriting business of the syndicates *was as in the Merrett* case. It was the duty of Pulbrook as prudent managing agents seeking *unlimited prosection to consider with* care what was required to be disclosed to a prospective reinsurer.

Further, it was their duty to consider properly any grey areas which might give rise to a plea of non-disclosure so that he could take an informed decision as to whether or not to supply information covering the area concerned.

Solicitors: *D. J. Freeman*; Reynolds Porter & Chamberlain; Cameron Markby Hewitt.

Knife blade was found in chocolate confectionery

Regina v F & M Dobson Ltd

Before Lord Taylor of Gosforth, Lord Chief Justice, Mr Justice Owen and Sir Lawrence Verney, QC, Recorder of London

[Judgment March 2]

Manufacturers of food or confectionery must be kept on their toes to take all precautions to prevent incidents such as a knife blade becoming covered with chocolate and sold as confectionery.

Lord Taylor, Lord Chief Justice, so stated when giving the judgment of the Court of Appeal on an appeal by F & M Dobson Ltd, confectionery manufacturers of Newcastle upon Tyne, against a fine of £25,000 imposed in Nottingham Crown Court by Judge Matthewman, QC, on a finding of guilt of selling at a shop in *Nottingham "food for human* consumption, namely, a nut brittle sweet which failed to comply with *food safety requirements in that it* was so contaminated with a Stanley knife blade that it was not reasonable to expect it to be used for human consumption in that state," contrary to section 8(1)(a) and 8(2)(c) of the Food Safety Act 1990. They were ordered also to pay £7,834 towards the costs of prosecution.

Mr Edward F. T. Brown for the appellants.

THE LORD CHIEF JUSTICE said that one of the appellants' products, sold under the name of *"Cock-ups"*, was a chocolate-covered nut crunch. A man bought a quantity of those sweets from a *sweetshop in Nottingham, from* a large jar and put into a bag.

His wife put one of the sweets into her mouth and discovered *it* not to be a sweet but the blade of a Stanley knife enrobed in chocolate. It cut her tongue, and drew blood, causing soreness which lasted for two days.

Mr Brown submitted that the level of sentence was far too high and drew attention to the fact that the maximum fine that could have been imposed by justices was £20,000. *In any event he submitted* that the fine imposed was not merely £5,000 too much but it was grossly *too much*.

The suggestion was that the right test was culpability.

There were no cases in the crown court nor were there any guidelines on the level of sentencing. It was difficult for guidelines to be set because the circumstances in *which such cases occurred were*, unfortunately, infinitely varied. Their Lordships accepted that *culpability had to be an important* factor on what was the appropriate penalty to impose, but they also considered that deterrence was a major factor.

Where manufacturers were producing foodstuffs or confectionery likely to be put in the consumer's mouth without close inspection and in the confidence that what was being consumed was wholesome, there was a very high duty on the company to do all that they could to see that no foreign bodies, particularly foreign bodies as dangerous as Stanley *knife* blades, got into their products.

The appellants had taken many *steps but they had not taken* the step which the judge referred in his sentencing remarks, namely, putting a *metal detector at the end* of the line. They had instantly taken that step after the present complaint had been made.

It was important that when the court had to consider such cases, the idea should not go out that my company, providing they had a good record hitherto, could ignore one bite of a Stanley knife blade or some other unwholesome objects *something which the court would* overlook on the first occasion.

It was very important that manufacturers should be kept on their toes to take all precautions to prevent such incidents. A fine of some substance had to be imposed. Their Lordships accepted that £25,000 was manifestly excessive and they had concluded that a proper fine would be £7,000. Accordingly the fine would be reduced to that sum.

The costs had to stand. The company *had brought them* on themselves by choosing jury trial.

Solicitors: Mark Gilbert Mort, Newcastle upon Tyne.

No deduction by set-off in domestic carriage claim

United Carriers Ltd v Heritage Food Group (UK) Ltd

Before Mr Justice May

[Judgment February 10]

There could be no deduction by way of abatement or set-off from a *claim for freight charges* arising from domestic carriage of goods by land.

Mr Justice May so held when giving judgment in open court after a hearing in chambers in the Queen's Bench Division in determining an appeal by the plaintiffs, United Carriers Ltd, against an order of District Judge Whitehurst in Northampton District *Registry allowing the defendants*, Heritage Food Group (UK) Ltd, to amend their counterclaim

Mr Patrick Rolfe for the plaintiffs; Mr Daniel Worsley for the defendants.

MR JUSTICE MAY said that the plaintiffs were carriers and the *defendants* were retailers who engaged the plaintiffs to transport and deliver Christmas hampers. The plaintiffs' claim was, in the main, their carriage charges for *effecting those deliveries*.

The defendants did not dispute the plaintiffs' claim nor its quantification but they sought to set off cross-claims for short delivery and other breaches of contract against the plaintiffs' claim.

The plaintiffs contended that their claim was for freight charges and that the law was that there could be no deduction by way of *abatement or set-off from such* charges.

The defendants accepted that such a rule applied to freight claimed in shipping cases under voyage charterparties: see *Henriksens Rederi A/S v T. H. Z. Rolimper (The Brede)* ([1974] QB 233) and *Aries Tanker Corporation v Total Transport Ltd* ([1977] 1 WLR 185).

They were also constrained to accept, at first instance at least, that the rule applied to freight claimed for international road haulage: see *R. H. & D. International Ltd v I. A. S. Animal Air Services Ltd* ([1984] 1 WLR 573). But they submitted that the rule should not apply to charges for domestic carriage by land.

The only case his Lordship was referred to which dealt with domestic carriage by land was *A. S. Jones Ltd v Burton Gold Medal Biscuits* (unreported April 11, 1984) where Mr Justice Nolan applied the rule. That case was in substance indistinguishable from the instant case.

The *Aries Tanker* rule, which denied defences otherwise *generally available, had little if any* intrinsic justification but applied to carriage of goods by sea because it *was a rule of considerable antiquity* which had been applied consistently and on the basis of which owners, charterers and insurers might be taken to have contracted.

It was very difficult to apply that latter justification to carriage of goods by land where there was only one reported case and where discussions to be found in text books were equivocal.

There was no intrinsic justification why the motor cycle messenger taking a small package across London should be accorded *the benefit of the Aries Tanker rule* when the equivalent commercial benefit was not available to manufacturers, shopkeepers, builders, accountants and others.

There was no distinction between the motor cycle messenger and a van driver delivering stationery to an office or either of those and the plaintiffs in the instant case delivering Christmas hampers for the defendants.

Left to himself, his Lordship would decide that the *Aries Tanker* rule did not apply to such contracts. He would draw a line *between carriage by sea and* international carriage by land to which the rule did apply, subject to particular contract terms, and domestic carriage by land to which it did not.

That would not be a line drawn by logic but it would be a *pragmatic division between cases* to which the rule was to be applied from antiquity and cases where his *Lordship conceived that it would* be quite anomalous and without the only modern justification which supported the rule for carriage by sea.

His Lordship did not, however, feel able to reach that conclusion. He was not literally bound by *authority to reject it since A. S. Jones* was a first instance decision not binding on him. But that case was *indistinguishable from the* instant case and the cumulative weight of that authority and the other dicta was such that it would not be right for a judge at first instance, however bold, to decide otherwise.

His Lordship therefore held, *with unconcealed reluctance, that* the *Aries Tanker* rule applied generally to domestic carriage of goods by land.

Solicitors: Shoosmiths & Harrison, Northampton; Punch Robson, Middlesbrough.

Correction

In *R v Murphy (The Times* February 28) Miss Jane Bickerstaff was instructed by Sonn & Co, Islington.

Union membership provision applies equally to trade union activities

Harrison v Kent County Council

Before Mr Justice Mummery, Mrs *M. E. Sunderland and Mr G. H.* Wright

[Judgment February 24]

The provisions of section 137(1) of the Trade Union and Labour *Relations (Consolidation) Act 1992*, that it was unlawful to refuse a person employment because he was a member of a trade union, included a refusal of employment on the ground of trade union activities and was not restricted to a refusal on the ground that he was *a union member*.

Accordingly, in the case of a person allegedly refused employment by a local authority because of past union activities it was open to the industrial tribunal to conclude that the local authority was in breach of the section.

The Employment Appeal Tribunal so held when allowing an appeal by Mr Colin Harrison from the dismissal by an Ashford industrial tribunal last July of his complaint that he was unlawfully refused employment by Kent County Council because a union member.

The appeal was on the ground that the industrial tribunal had *erred in law in adopting an unduly* narrow approach to construing section 137(1).

Section 137 provides: "(1) It is unlawful to refuse a person employment (a) because he is, or is not, a member of a trade union."

Mr Antony White for the applicant; Mr Andrew Clarke for the local authority.

MR JUSTICE MUMMERY *said that it was the first time the* appeal tribunal had considered the provision of section 137. The applicant was a social worker. He was employed for fourteen years until he left in 1991.

Throughout his employment he had been an active union member and a shop steward. *During* 1983/1984 he was one of the leaders of a long and bitter dispute involving strike action.

He applied to work for the local authority again in 1993 but was refused employment. He made a complaint that the reason related *to trade union membership*. The local authority denied that that was the reason and stated that it *was the applicant's uncooperative* attitude and anti-management style.

The industrial tribunal found that the main reason for the refusal was the applicant's trade union activities. But it held that there was no breach of section 137(1) because *the section referred only to trade* union membership and not to trade union activities.

It considered it was precluded from importing the words "or past trade union activities" into the section. It accepted the local authority's evidence that it supported union membership and that had the applicant simply been known as a union member he would have been re-employed but that it was the manifestation of his attitude within and outside the scope of his union activities which was confrontational and anti-managerial which was the reason for the refusal of employment.

The appeal tribunal had concluded that the industrial tribunal had erred in its construction of section 137(1). The tribunal had taken the view that the subsection only made it unlawful to have regard to membership of a trade union as distinct from trade union activities.

That was a narrower view of the conceptual limits of membership of a trade union than was expressed by the natural language of *the section. Trade union* membership and activities overlapped.

If a person was refused employment because *he was a trade union* activist or because of his union activities it was open to a tribunal to conclude that he was refused employment because he was a member of a union within the meaning of section 137(1).

The construction adopted by the tribunal would have a consequence inconsistent with promoting the purpose of the *provision which was to protect a* person from being discriminated against in access to employment on grounds related to union membership. It was a question of fact and degree in each case for the industrial to determine whether the reason for refusal was that made unlawful by section 137(1).

The appeal would be allowed and the case remitted to another industrial tribunal for rehearing.

Solicitors: Bruce Piper; Mr D. P. Clephan, Maidstone.

Lease restored to full existence after case dismissed

Hynes v Twinsectra Ltd

Before Lord Justice Leggatt, Lord Justice Aldous and Lord Justice Hutchison

[Judgment March 2]

Where an action for the forfeiture of a lease was dismissed the lease was restored to its full existence. *Therefore a tenant eligible under* Part I of the Leasehold Reform Act 1967 was entitled to apply to acquire the freehold of the property.

The Court of Appeal so held dismissing an appeal by Twinsectra Ltd, the landlords, against the decision of Judge Tibber at Lambeth County Court on June 28, 1993 that John Patrick *Hynes was entitled to acquire* the freehold of the property of which he was a tenant under Part I of the 1967 Act.

In 1982 the landlords had applied for possession of the property on the ground that the lease was forfeited for breach of the covenant to repair. *In 1988 the possession* proceedings were dismissed by consent.

Mr Romie Tager for the landlords; Mr Bruce Speller for the tenant.

LORD JUSTICE HUTCHISON said that the landlords argued that the bringing of an action claiming possession on the ground of the lessee's breach of covenant was treated as the equivalent of actual re-entry and as a final election to forfeit the lease.

The landlord could not thereafter do anything inconsistent with his intention to forfeit. As Mr *Hynes* had not applied for relief from forfeiture, the argument ran, he was not a tenant for the purposes of the 1967 Act, despite the 1988 consent order dismissing *the forfeiture action*.

In his Lordship's judgment, whatever the status of a lease pending an action for forfeiture, the lease must be taken to have *been fully restored when the action* for possession was dismissed and, accordingly, there was no need for the grant of relief from forfeiture to restore the lease to its full *existence*.

Lord Justice Aldous gave a concurring judgment and Lord Justice Leggatt agreed.

Solicitors: Wallace & Partners; *Armstrong & Co, Forest Hill.*

Evidence of cash found with drugs

Regina v Grant

Before Lord Taylor of Gosforth, *Lord Chief Justice, Mr Justice* Owen and Sir Lawrence Verney, Recorder of London

[Judgment February 27]

When evidence of cash found in the *possession of a defendant* also possessing drugs was admitted before the jury to establish an intent to supply drugs, the jury had to be directed that, if in their view, there was any possibility of the money being in the defendant's possession for a reason other than drug dealing, the evidence of possession of the cash with the drugs would not be probative of an *intent to supply them*.

The Court of Appeal so held when dismissing an appeal by *Steven Grant*, aged 23, from conviction at Harrow Crown Court (Judge Myrella Cohen, QC and a jury) of possession of a class A drug, 28.26 grams of crack cocaine, with intent to supply, contrary to section 5(1) of the Misuse of Drugs Act 1971, for which he was sentenced to five years imprisonment and a confiscation order was made of £912.50 found in his possession on arrest.

Mr Icah Peart, assigned by the Registrar of Criminal Appeals, for the appellant. Mr Bartholomew O'Toole for the Crown.

THE LORD CHIEF JUSTICE, giving the judgment of the court, referred to *R v Batt (The Times* April 25, 1994; [1994] Crim LR 592); *R v Wright* ([1994] Crim LR 55); *R v Morris* (*The Times* October 20, 1994); *R v Gordon* ([1995] Crim LR 142) and *R v Brown* (unreported, November 3, 1994) and said that the finding of money, whether in the home of the defendant, or perhaps more cogently, in his possession when in conjunction with a substantial quantity of drugs, was capable of being relevant to the issue whether there was proof of an intent to supply the drugs.

It was a matter for the jury to decide whether, in all the circumstances, the presence of the money was an indication of an on-going trade in drugs of which the presence of the drugs at the time of arrest was capable of being construed as possession with intent to supply. The judge in the present case was justified in allowing the evidence of the £912.50 to be admitted before the jury.

However, in *Morris* the court had held that it was incumbent, where such evidence was admitted, *to give a direction to the jury* about the way they should approach the question whether the *finding of the money was pro*bative of the necessary intent.

In the present case the judge gave no such direction. In their Lordships' judgment it was necessary for the judge to indicate that any explanation for the money put forward by way of an innocent explanation by the defendant would have to be rejected by the jury before they could regard the finding of the money was relevant to the offence.

Again, the jury should be di*rected that, if there was any* possibility of the money, in their view, being in the defendant's *possession for reasons other than* drugs dealing, then the evidence would not be probative.

But if, on the other hand, the jury were to conclude that the presence of the money indicated not past dealing but on-going dealing in drugs, then finding the money together with the drugs in question would be a matter which the jury could take into account in considering whether the necessary intent had been proved.

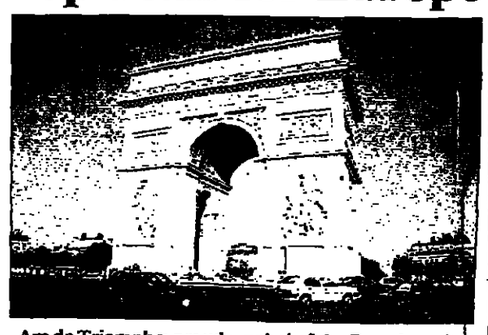
The absence of the direction in the present case had to amount to a misdirection or a non-direction. The main issue was whether the failure was fatal to the conviction, or whether the evidence was so overwhelming and the explanation offered by the appellant of how he had come into possession of the money, why he had it with him, why he had the amount of drugs he had and other matters was so incredible that their Lordships had little doubt that the jury would have come to the same conclusion, whatever direction the judge had *given*.

Their Lordships were satisfied that no miscarriage of justice had occurred and, there being *no* substance in any other ground of appeal, it was dismissed.

Solicitors: Crown Prosecution Service, Middlesex.

THE TIMES

20p deals for Europe



Arc de Triomphe: proud symbol of the French capita

APRIL is an ideal time of the year to visit Paris, and this week's offers from *The Times* will get you there cheaply with Le Shuttle, give you £20 of duty-free goods for 20p – and offer a special language deal with Linguaphone.

The normal price for a five-day short break return crossing through the Channel tunnel on Le Shuttle in April is up to £150 – but we have pegged it at the winter rate of £75 until the end of the month for a car, driver and passengers. Collect four of the six tokens which are appearing each day until Monday and complete the form which appeared yesterday and you will also qualify for the special duty-free offer. Travel must be completed by April 30 1995 and excludes April 14, 15 and 16. You must book at least ten days before you intend to travel. Full terms and conditions appeared yesterday.

Linguaphone is the world's leading language tuition company. Collect the tokens which are appearing each day until Monday and you could buy up to three Traveller's Guides for just 20p each.

A Traveller's Guide contains a 70-minute bilingual cassette and a printed guide to useful words and phrases. The guides are available in French, German, Spanish, Italian, Greek and Portuguese. Buy one for £2.79, collect two tokens and you will be entitled to buy a second guide for just 20p. With your guides you will receive a voucher worth £50 if you buy a full Linguaphone course. Full details of this offer, plus an application form, appeared yesterday.

THE TIMES TOKEN TWO

LINGUAPHONE

THE TIMES TOKEN 2

EuroDrive TRAVEL CLUB

LEGAL & PUBLIC NOTICES 0171-782 7344

PUBLIC NOTICES

NOTICE OF APPOINTMENT OF ADMINISTRATIVE RECEIVER
THE SPRING HOTEL (WALLINGFORD) LIMITED (IN ADMINISTRATIVE RECEIVERSHIP)
Registered number 1510705
Trading name(s)
The Spring Hotel
Nature of business
Hoteliers and restaurateurs
Trade classification
47/48/49
Date of appointment of administrative receiver(s)
Allied Irish Bank Plc
Name of administrative receivers
Peter Norman Spratt
Alan John Barnett
Office Holder No(s)
6278 1095
Address(es)
Thames Court
1 Victoria Street
Windsor
SL4 1YB
No 1 London Bridge
London
SE1 9GL

LEGAL NOTICES

In the High Court of Justice (Chancery Division) Companies Court No 007268 of 1994
In the Matter of Kentish Property Group plc (In Liquidation) and in the Matter of the Insolvency Act 1986
A Meeting of the above-named Company has been summoned by the Joint Liquidators under section 106 of the Insolvency Act 1986 for the purpose of laying before the Meeting an account of their acts and dealing and the conduct of the winding-up during the preceding year.
The Meeting will be held on 30th March 1995 at 11 am, at Cedric House, 8-9 East Harding Street, London, EC4A 3AS
R Powdrill
N Lyle
Joint Liquidators
Touche Ross
PO Box 810
Cedric House
8-9 East Harding Street
London, EC4A 3AS
2 March 1995

LEGAL NOTICES

EACBEN CONTAINER SERVICES LIMITED (IN MEMBERS' VOLUNTARY LIQUIDATION)
COMPANY NUMBER 2628523
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, pursuant to Rules 4.182A and 11.2 of the Insolvency Rules 1986, that the Liquidator of the above company intends to make a *distribution to the creditors*. Creditors are required to submit full details of their claims and their names and addresses to the Liquidator, Roger Smith, KPMG, PO Box 730, 20 Farringdon Street, London EC4A 4PP on or before Friday 7 April 1995 which is the 1st day for proving claims. Notice is also given that the Liquidator proposes to make final distribution and that such distribution will be made without regard to any claims not made by the date mentioned.
Note: the company is able to pay all its know creditors in full
Dated, 3 March 1995
R Smith - Liquidator

No. 00564 of 1995
IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE
CHANCERY DIVISION
IN THE MATTER OF NEW FARM ESTATES PLC
AND IN THE MATTER OF THE COMPANIES ACT 1985
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Order of the High Court of Justice (Chancery Division) dated 22 February 1995 confirming the reduction of the capital of the above-named Company from £4,500,000 to £960,000 and the Minute approved by the Court showing with respect to the capital of the company as altered the several particulars required by the above-mentioned Act were registered by the Registrar of Companies on 23rd February 1995.
DATED the 6th day of March 1995
Messrs Edge & Ellison
Rutland House
148 Edmund Street
Birmingham
B3 2JR
solicitors for the above-named Company

J.A.D. FLOORING COMPANY LIMITED
THE INSOLVENCY ACT 1986
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to Section 98 of the Insolvency Act, 1986, that a meeting of the creditors of the above named company will be held at the offices of Pannell Kerr Forster, 32 HIGH STREET, MANCHESTER M4 1QD on Friday 17th day of March 1995 at 12.00 noon, for the purposes mentioned in Sections 99,100 and 101 of the said Act. Pursuant to Section 98, Subsection (2) (a) of the Act, Peter Lomas of Pannell Kerr Forster and Appleby, 32 High Street, Manchester, M4 1QD is appointed to act as the Qualified Insolvency Practitioner who will furnish creditors with such information as they may reasonably require.
DATED THIS 3RD DAY OF MARCH 1995 BY ORDER OF THE BOARD J A DUGDALE DIRECTOR

NO 00377 of 1995
IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE
CHANCERY DIVISION
IN THE MATTER OF AEROSPACE ENGINEERING P.L.C. and IN THE MATTER OF THE COMPANIES ACT 1985
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Order of the High Court of Justice (Chancery Division) dated 22nd February 1995 confirming the reduction of the share capital of the above-named Company from £11,784,744 to £4,188,000 and confirming the cancellation of the sum of £2,584,000 standing to the credit of the Share Premium Account of the above-named Company was registered by the Registrar of Companies on 23rd February 1995.
DATED the 6th day of March 1995
Messrs Edge & Ellison
Rutland House
148 Edmund Street
Birmingham
B3 2JR
solicitors for the above-named Company

RAILHOUSE LIVERPOOL LIMITED (IN MEMBERS' VOLUNTARY LIQUIDATION)
THE INSOLVENCY ACT 1986
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to Rule 4.106 of the Insolvency Rules 1986 that on 27 February 1995 I, A Manning of Butcher Phillips, 84 Grosvenor Street, London W1X 9DF, was appointed Liquidator of the above named Company by the members. NOTICE IS ALSO HEREBY GIVEN that the creditors of the above named Company, which is being voluntarily wound up, are required on or before the 7 April 1995, to send in their full Christian and surnames, their addresses and descriptions, full particulars of their debts or claims, and the names and addresses of their Solicitors (if any), to the undersigned I. A Manning of Butcher Phillips, 84 Grosvenor Street, London W1X 9DF, the Liquidator of the said Company, and, if so required by notice in writing from the said Liquidator, are, personally or by their Solicitors, to come in and prove their debts or claims at such time and place as shall be specified in such notice, or in default thereof they will be excluded from the benefit of any distribution made before such debts are proved.
Dated 27 February 1995 I. A Manning, FCA, Liquidator
NOTE. This notice is purely formal. All creditors have been or will be paid in full

FERMAPRINT (HOLDINGS) LTD AND FERMAPRINT INSTANTPRINT LIMITED The Insolvency Act 1986
In accordance with Rule 4.106 of The Insolvency Rules 1986 notice is hereby given that I, Peter S. Dunn FCA, a Licensed Insolvency Practitioner of Latham Crossley & Davis, 7 Maddox Place, London, W1H 3FF was appointed Liquidator of the above Companies by the Creditors on 21st February 1995.
Dated this 21st February 1995
PETER S. DUNN FCA,
Liquidator

NOTICE OF SSE MEETING OF CREDITORS
BIRO FOOD MACHINERY LIMITED (IN ADMINISTRATIVE RECEIVERSHIP)
Principal Trading Address: Biro House, 518 Stanley Road, Harrow, Middlesex HA3 6UW
Company Number: 1023474
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, pursuant to Section 98 of the Insolvency Act 1986, that a meeting of the creditors of the above-named company will be held at Hill House, 1 Little New Street, London EC4A 3TR on 31 March 1995 at 11.00 am for the purposes mentioned in Sections 99 to 101 of the Insolvency Act 1986.
DAVID LLEWELLYN MORGAN of Touche Ross & Co, of PO Box 810, Cedric House, 8-9 East Harding Street, London EC4A 3AS will provide creditors free of charge with such information concerning the company's affairs as they may reasonably require.
Creditors requiring this information should contact in the first instance Neil Mathey on 0171 936-3000.
Dated 1 March 1995
BY ORDER OF THE BOARD
Herschel M Hoffmeh
Director

LEGAL, PUBLIC, COMPANY & PARLIAMENTARY NOTICES
TO PLACE NOTICES FOR THIS SECTION PLEASE TELEPHONE
0171-782 7344
OR
FAX: 0171-782 7827
Notices are subject to confirmation and should be received by 2.30pm two days prior to insertion.



MUSIC page 38
Canada offers British Baroque specialist Trevor Pinnock a chance to broaden his repertoire

ARTS

THEATRE page 39
Peter Bowles helps to give a new lease of life to a Terence Rattigan study of terminal illness



The best seats in the world, please

Which city offers the world's most exciting music and theatre? Who is producing the most imaginative and compelling cinema? Where is the buzz in dance or in pop? And what is Britain's present standing in the cultural league-table? *The Times* asked six of its critics to choose the city that would offer them the best nights out in their respective fields

DONALD COOPER









World-beaters: (clockwise from top left) Leslie Cheung in Chen Kaige's *Farewell My Concubine*, showing the emerging power of Chinese cinema; Juliet Stevenson and Michael Byrne in the West End production of *Death and the Maiden*; Peter Keller singing Mime in *Siegfried* during last year's acclaimed Paris cycle of Wagner's *Ring*; and the Mark Morris Company, the leading lights of the contemporary-dance scene

CINEMA

Maybe it is my patriotic duty to wait about for *Eight Weddings and Four Funerals*. But, hand on my heart, if I could live where the art of cinema flourished best, you would not see me under Britain's grey skies. Even if a wand was waved and our film industry became financially buoyant, there would still be the problem of the British film-maker's blinkered vision.

Our technicians are wonderful. We are good at servicing scripts with the best actors and costumes, and clean, functional images. We are good at dishing up the past. We are bad at penetrating the present, and telling stories, exploring feelings, through pictures rather than words.

A spell in America would be fun, though not as rewarding as it would have been when Hollywood lavished its riches on audiences in the 1920s and 1930s. Then, each week held the promise of a new film from Garbo or Buster Keaton, a *Top Hat*, or a visual poem like *Sunrise*. At the end of the century, American movies still enjoy the energy and talent that let them conquer the world so easily; what they have lost, overall, is their intelligence.

Mainland Europe, then? France, Germany, Sweden, Italy, Poland, Hungary, former Czechoslovakia: all have had their glory days. But stale ideas and the economic confusion following communism's collapse have led to an artistic drought, relieved occasionally by Kieślowski, Gianni Amelio, and the odd French surprise.

No, I must collect my bags and travel further afield. I need lessons in Mandarin and Cantonese Chinese. For it has been obvious for the last ten years that the Far East — China, Hong Kong and Taiwan especially — know how to make cinema dynamic, beautiful, deeply relevant to our times. They also produce ugly rubbish: what countries with big, eager audiences do not?

The steady progress made by Chinese-language films on the international scene cannot be ascribed just to fashion and the lure of the exotic. Films like Chen Kaige's *Farewell My Concubine*, Tian Zhuangzhuang's *The Blue Kite* and the wondrous creations of Zhang Yimou pierce the heart and dazzle the eye. Younger directors like Wong Kar-wei and Tsai Ming-Liang point to a cinema of the future: lithe, quirky, cine-literate, alert to the moods of urban youth.

But will the future exist? To ensure greater control over film content, last year China instituted stringent rules for the co-productions that make up most of its quality product. Major directors have been blacklisted, productions disrupted. Beyond 1997, Hong Kong faces the unknown. And Hollywood continues to spread everywhere, ousting local material: good for money men, bad for the art form. Perhaps I shouldn't unpack.

GEOFF BROWN

DANCE

Twenty years ago it was easy to decide where dance utopia was — New York. Balanchine was still alive and making new work, so was Martha Graham, most notably for *Rudolf* Nureyev. Paul Taylor was at a creative peak, as was Merce Cunningham. Antony Tudor made *The Leaves Are Fading* in 1975; the next year Twyla Tharp split open the ballet world with *Push Comes to Shove* for Mikhail Baryshnikov. A new generation of choreographers, people such as Trisha Brown and Lucinda Childs, were redefining the boundaries of dance.

Today such a single creative vortex is nowhere to be found. You would have to be a globetrotter if you wanted to be where all the best in dance was happening.

If you want great performances, go to Paris where the Paris Opéra Ballet fields an astounding array of talent — dancers such as Charles Jude, Elisabeth Platel and Isabelle Guerin — unsurpassed anywhere in the world. If you want size, a trip to Moscow is in order: the Bolshoi may be tatty around the edges in the new capitalist Russia but it can still put on a big show.

If you want new choreography you will be busy on both sides of the Atlantic. In America, Mark Morris is the hottest thing in dance; in France *Angelin Preljocaj is moving up* fast. The American William Forsythe is trendy, too, but he is based in Frankfurt.

Festivals are doing their bit for the dissemination of dance. Head for San Francisco in May where the San Francisco Ballet has invited a dozen international companies to make new work as part of a gigantic festival to celebrate the 50th anniversary of the United Nations. And what about Copenhagen? Next year the Royal Danish Ballet is commissioning five full-length ballets to celebrate the Danish capital's status as European City of Culture.

But if an around-the-world ticket is beyond your means, then stay put in London, as long as your budget extends to the Edinburgh Festival. Sooner or later most of the exciting developments in dance do find their way to our door — Morris, Preljocaj and Forsythe are all regular visitors. And while it may not be in the vanguard of choreographic invention, Covent Garden can hold its own as one of the greatest ballet companies the 20th century has produced.

DEBRA CRAINE

OPERA

Pausing briefly to muse on the manifold attractions of Sydney — its amazing opera house, the solidly accomplished repertory company that works in it, all that water and the second-best zoo in the world — I suppose it will have to be Paris. There are five theatres. The Palais Garnier is one of the world's great opera houses: simply to enter its portals is pleasure enough before you have even heard a note, and notes — both vocal and instrumental — sound wonderful in its surprisingly intimate auditorium.

I love the Opéra Comique even more: genuinely intimate, repository of a grand tradition heedlessly snuffed out in the 1950s but one currently showing signs of revival. A *Thaïs* there ten years ago remains one of my warmest operatic memories, and *Mireille* is nosing over the horizon even as I write... What London lacks more than anything is a theatre the size of the Comique.

Then there is the dear old dusty Châtelet, so dowdy and welcoming, the art-deco Champs-Elysées with its own traditions from Diaghilev onwards — and, um, the Bastille Opéra. Mitterrand's gleaming white elephant is a convenient venue for popular spectaculars while the serious work is done elsewhere (don't quote me).

And there is always the artfully distressed Bouffes du Nord for those who can take Peter Brook's pointless deconstructions, not to mention countless fringe theatres: a shoestring matinee of Christiné's *Phi-Phi*, that masterpiece of quadruple-entendre, in the Rue Moufftard is another glowing memory.

More important, French governments, whatever their hue, recognise the importance of High Art. Opera is properly funded. The Parisian scene is further spiced by Jacques Chirac's love of the lyric theatre and/or political ambition: as mayor of the capital he pours money into the Châtelet as rival to Mitterrand's Bastille, and audiences benefit from such successes as last autumn's exceedingly impressive *Ring* cycle and the stunning *King Arthur*.

And there *are* audiences in Paris: those theatres are packed out by a heterogeneous, informed and appreciative public, while over here the Stevenson report ponders the static or shrinking audience for opera in London. There is a blindingly simple answer, ignored by Stevenson presumably for ideological reasons: seat prices in Paris are roughly half those in London.

If a future British Government changes all this (some hope), then I could nip back on Eurostar to test the water — the same Eurostar that now makes going to the opera in Paris as easy (and almost as cheap) for a Londoner as going to the opera in Leeds.

RODNEY MILNES

THEATRE

The point was clinched for me two years ago, when I saw Ariel Dorfman's *Death and the Maiden* first in London, then in New York. Here, it had a tacky set and, thanks largely to Juliet Stevenson's performance as a vengeful torture victim, an unnerving power. There, *Mike Nichols set the* play in what looked like a Disney castle and, with the help of Glenn Close, Richard Dreyfuss and Gene Hackman, turned it into a soap about a maladjusted lady and her troubled marriage. British *parsimony had bought truth*, American profligacy only lies.

I have lived and practised my craft in New York, and had chances to do so again, but I opted for London. For the drama freak, there are alternatives to either city. Not Paris, which has long been in decline; not anywhere in Germany, where theatre-going is a grim, masochistic matter; but maybe Dublin, which has come to life in the 1990s, or Chicago, though the energy of the 1980s has abated. I have heard good things about Seattle and seen fine things in Glasgow, but both places would leave me enviously reading my ex-colleagues' account of what was happening in the smoke.

London's claim to be the centre of the English-speaking theatre cannot be challenged. Half the Broadway playhouses are usually dark. Off-Broadway seldom excites. There are no New York counterparts of the National and RSC. Classic work, including Shakespeare, is all but extinct. Good actors decamp for Tinseltown.

When I was a New York critic I could see one, two plays a week and be well on top of the job. Here, I see about 200 a year and still feel I miss a lot. Moreover, New Yorkers cannot get to Louisville or Houston as easily as we can to Stratford, Leeds or even Edinburgh, and they anyway find less when they arrive.

Let me not succumb to insular triumphalism. London sees too few foreign companies, and is producing too few interesting new dramatists of its own. But the decider is, quite simply, our actors. Think Michael Bryant, Claire Higgins, Michael Gambon, Simon Russell-Beale, Janet Suzman, Robert Stephens, Antony Sher, Ian McKellen, Jane Lapotaire, Sara Kestelman, Alec McCowen ... but need I say more?

BENEDICT NIGHTINGALE

POP

I am packing my Stetson and heading for Texas. The Lone Star State has produced few bona fide rock 'n' roll stars. Buddy Holly and the Crickets from Lubbock were the first, ZZ Top from Houston the biggest. But Texas has a long and distinctive live music tradition: the legacy of blues originators such as Lightnin' Hopkins and Freddie King, country-rock veterans including Joe Ely and Jimmie Dale Gilmore and latterday blues-rock stars such as Johnny Winter and Stevie Ray Vaughan.

It remains a hotbed of grassroots activity that has not been distorted through the fish-eye lens of the media or corrupted by the incessant wheeling and dealing that goes on in the big popular-music centres on the east and west coasts.

For a lover of electric blues, Tex-Mex and American roots music in general, arriving in the state capital of Austin is like reaching Nirvana. It is a university town which supports a flourishing artistic and bohemian community, and boasts a downtown area that is the musical equivalent of a red-light district. On virtually any night of the year you can walk down 6th Street and pass bar after bar, maybe a dozen or more, all featuring superb roots, R&B and rock'n'roll bands.

Then every March the city hosts the South By Southwest Music And Media Conference, a massive industry jamboree which in 1994 played host to about 500 primarily roots-rock acts over a five-night stretch.

In the world league of rock 'n' roll capitals, I would rank London third behind New York and Los Angeles. It has every kind of venue — from the prestigious 250-capacity Borderline, to the massive 72,000-capacity Wembley Stadium — and there has been no major rock act since Elvis Presley who has not appeared here frequently throughout their career. Britain is the gateway through which popular music travels from Europe to the rest of the world and vice versa.

But more than that, Britain and Ireland together still constitute an astonishingly vibrant centre of creativity. Since last year, bold, original new acts have been surfacing virtually every week, and there is a sense of vitality and adventure in the air which makes the current British scene as exciting as that of any period since the 1960s.

DAVID SINCLAIR



Claudio Abbado: the revitalising force behind the emergence of Berlin as the musical capital of the world

CLASSICAL MUSIC

A great orchestra does not guarantee that a city has a great concert life; but a great concert life is difficult to sustain without a great orchestra. So that immediately puts Italy and France out of bounds for me, and brings into consideration some otherwise quite extraordinarily boring cities. The dread words "Cleveland, Ohio" spring to mind.

But a great orchestra requires a great hall to burnish its brass and encourage its strings, and loads of dosh to pay for the great soloists and conductors whose presence would inspire its musicians and audiences alike. So farewell, *London. Don't get me* wrong: I reckon that I have attended 2,000 London concerts over the past 20 years or so, and more than half of them have brought me great pleasure. That's not a bad strike-rate. But for fantasy-league concert-going you need a wonderful hall.

You also require a charismatic figure who is committed to that city for more than 15 minutes a year, who can generate electrifying performances and win over audiences for music that is new or unfamiliar. That rules out most of the cities left in contention — even Vienna, which has a magnificent orchestra and hall, but nobody in charge to shake the place out of its complacent ultra-conservatism.

Nevertheless, there is Rattle in Birmingham, Masur in New York, Abbado in Berlin, Dohnanyi in Cleveland, Blomstedt in San Francisco, Temirkanov and Jansons in St Petersburg — but does the St Petersburg Philharmonic actually play in St Petersburg any more? It seems to be permanently touring the hard-currency countries.

Finally, you need a supporting musical life — of first-class recitals every night, thrusting young new-music groups, composers and conservatoires, and a powerful and musically committed broadcasting organisation. On all those matters, London tops the world; but we have already ruled London out.

Where else can you find all that? New York, perhaps; but Avery Fisher Hall (where the New York Phil plays for most of the time) is worse than the Barbican for sound, and New York has no BBC.

No, the city of a music-lover's dreams must be Berlin. *With Claudio Abbado revitalising* the repertoire and the adventurous spirit of the Philharmonic, with two or three other excellent orchestras in the city, with its proud operatic heritage, and with the rich chamber and contemporary musical life of the reunited metropolis, Berlin cannot fail to underline its position as the musical capital of the world. Besides, the Berliners are much friendlier than the Viennese.

RICHARD MORRISON



Country-rock star Joe Ely: in a long Texan tradition

LONDON

INDEPENDENT STATE: Susannah York takes on Mark Davies's one-woman play, as an Irish-born country singer *dreaming of making it in Nashville*. Grace, Latchmere Pub, 503 Battersea Park Road, SW11 (0171-223 3549). Preview tonight and tomorrow, 8pm. Opens Fri, until Apr 2.

ARC DANCE. The company celebrates its tenth anniversary with a double-bill programme *Saints and Sinners* is a new work inspired by the Mexican Day of the Dead, combined with possibly the most popular work director Kim Brandstrup ever created, *Orfeo*.
Sadler's Wells, Rosebery Avenue, EC1 (0171-278 8916) Tonight-Sat, 8pm.

A PURCELL CELEBRATION. Tercentenary year homage to the composer continues tonight when René Jacobs and the **Orchestra of the Age of Enlightenment** are joined by the OAE Choir and an all-star cast of Lynne Dawson, Gerald Finley, Delia Jones and Rosemary Joshua for a concert performance of *Dido and Aeneas*. The programme opens with Blow's *Venus and Adonis*.
Queen Elizabeth Hall, South Bank, SE1 (0171-928 8800). Tonight, 7.45pm

NIGHTSHIFT. Opening night for Stephen Dinsdale's latest success (following *Anorak of Fire*), first seen at last year's Edinburgh Festival. Sarah Brignall stars in the one-woman

TODAY'S EVENTS

A daily guide to arts and entertainment compiled by Kris Anderson

comedy thriller about a brash but lovable secretary in a minicab office. **Riverside Studios**, Crisp Road, W6 (0181-741 2311) Opens tonight, 8pm. Then Tue-Sat, 8pm. Until Mar 25.

ELSEWHERE

BIRMINGHAM: David Thacker's powerful Bristol Old Vic production of Miller's *A View from the Bridge*, with Bernard Hill outstanding as the hero, transfers here for four weeks **Repertory**, Centenary Square (0121-236 4455). Previews tonight and tomorrow, 7.30pm. Opens Fri, 7.30pm Then Mon-Sat, 7.30pm; mats Mar 14, 16, 23, 28 and 30, 2.30pm; Mar 11 and 25, 3pm Until Apr 1.

EDINBURGH. **Opera di Milano** continues its whistle-stop UK tour with further performances of Puccini's majestic *Tosca*. Last stop in Scotland: next week, the Alhambra in Bradford. **King's**, Leven Street (0131-220 4349). Tonight-Sat, 7.30pm.

POOLE: The **Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra** offers a music theatre treat tonight when it stages a performance of Stravinsky's *The Soldier's Tale* Beethoven's Symphony *No 5* closes the programme; Kevin Field and Nicolae Moldoveanu conduct. **Wessex Hall**, Arts Centre (01202 685222). Tonight, 7.30pm.

London City Ballet is also in Poole this week, with its spring season lineup of Galina Samsova's staging of *Giselle* and a gala programme of Ashton's *Tweedledum and Tweedledee*, the lakeside scene from *Swan Lake*, David Lichine's exhilarating *Graduation Ball* and a selection of showpiece duets. **Box Office**, as above. Tonight-Sat, 7.45pm, mats today and Sat, 2.30pm.

YORK: **Wayne Sleep** takes his new big-scale show on the road this week, billed, appropriately enough, *Dance*. It is very much a family piece, taking in everything from classical ballet to Harlem tap
Opera House, Cumberland Street (01904 671818). Tonight-Sat, 7.30pm; mats today and Sat, 2.30pm.

LONDON GALLERIES

Barbican: Contemporary Print Show (0171-638-4141) . . . **British Museum**: Byzantine Treasures from British Collections (0171-636 1555) . . . **Hayward**: Yves Klein (071-926 3144) . . . **National Gallery**: The Age of Elegance; Holbein: Portrait of Erasmus *(0171-839 3321)* . . . **National Portrait Gallery**: The Road from 1945 (0171-306 0055) . . . **Royal Academy**: The Revival of the Palladian Style (0171-439 7438) . . . **Serpentine**: Man Ray (0171-402 6075) . . . **Tate**: Willem de Kooning; (0171-887 8000) . . . **V & A**: Warworks: Women Photographers (938 8500)

THEATRE GUIDE

Jeremy Kingston's assessment of theatre showing in London

■ **House full, returns only**
◪ **Some seats available**
☐ **Seats at all prices**

◪ **AGAMEMNON'S CHILDREN**: Laurence Boswell directs in repertory Euripedes' plays on frenzied Elektra, haunted Orestes and sacrificed, innocent Iphigeneia.
Gate, 11 Pembridge Rd, W11 (0171-229 0706). The trilogy opens today, 2.30, 5pm and 7.30pm. Then individual plays Mon-Tue, Thurs-Fri, 7.30pm. Trilogy Wed and Sat, as today; except Mar 27 *Elektra* 7pm and 9 15pm and March 31. Iphigenia 7pm, 9 15pm Until Apr 1

☐ **AIN'T MISBEHAVIN'**: The hit Fats Waller musical show arrives in the West End tonight. Packed with tapping, stomping and exuberant song and dance.
Lyric, Shaftesbury Avenue, W1 (0171-494 5045). Previews begin tonight, 8pm; mat Sat, 5pm Opens March 13

☐ **ALICE'S ADVENTURES UNDER GROUND**: Christopher Hampton does not go far under the skin of Lewis Carroll. Accomplished acting by Michael Maloney and little Sasha Hanau but the play's purpose is unclear.
National, (Cottesloe), South Bank, SE1 (0171-928 2252). Tonight-Sat, 7.30pm; mats Thurs and Sat, 2.30pm

☐ **THE CLANDESTINE MARRIAGE**: Nigel Hawthorne plays the dilapidated Lord Ogleby and directs a strong cast in this good-hearted comedy about 18th-century greed, snobbery and love.
Queens, Shaftesbury Avenue, W1 (0171-494 5041). Tonight-Sat, 7 30pm; mat Sat, 2.30pm. Final week.

☐ **CONVERSATIONS WITH MY FATHER**: Judd Hirsch recreates his Tony Award-winning performance in Herb Gardner's 1992 Broadway hit, set in a Lower East Side bar. Alan Ayckbourn directs
Old Vic, Waterloo Road, SE1 (0171-928 7616) Mon-Sat, 7.45pm; mats Wed and Sat, 2.30pm

☐ **THE STRIP**: Phyllis Nagy's latest, set in Las Vegas where an odd bunch of characters is converging for a total eclipse. *Steven Pimlott directs a large* cast that includes Cheryl Campbell, Nicholas Farrell and Nicholas le Prevost.
Royal Court, Sloane Square, SW1 (0171-730 1745). Mon-Sat, 7.30pm; mat Sat, 3.30pm. Until Apr 7.

☐ **UP'N'UNDER**: John Godber's rugby play: a scratch club pits itself against peak performers.
Playhouse, Northumberland Avenue, WC2 (0171-839 4401). Opens tonight, 7pm Then Mon-Sat, 8pm; mats Thurs, 3pm and Sat, 5pm.

☐ **THE VENETIAN TWINS**: Michael Bogdanov's knockabout production loses some of Goldoni's comedy. David Troughton plays both twins: Ranjit Bolt translates. Final performances.
Barbican, Silk Street, EC2 (0171-638 8891) Today, 7.15pm, tomorrow, 2pm and 7 15pm

LONG RUNNERS

☐ **Arcadia**: Haymarket (0171-930 8800) . . . ☐ **Blood Brothers**: Phoenix (0171-867 1044) . ☐ **Copacabana**: Prince of Wales (0171-839 5972) . . ☐ **Don't Dress for Dinner**: Duchess (0171-494 5070) . . . ◪ **Les Misérables**: Palace (071-434 0909) . . . ☐ **My Night With Reg**: Criterion (0171-839 4488) . . . ☐ **Only the Lonely**: Piccadilly (0171-369 1734) . . . ◪ **A Passionate Woman**: Comedy (0171-369 1731) . . . ■ **The Phantom of the Opera**: Her Majesty's (0171-494 5400) . . . ☐ **She Loves Me**: Savoy (0171-836 8888) . . . ◪ **Sunset Boulevard**: Adelphi (0171-344 0055) ■ **Three Tall Women**. Wyndhams (0171-369 1736) . . . ☐ **The Woman in Black**: Fortune (0171-836 2238)
Ticket information supplied by Society of London Theatre.

NEW RELEASES

◆ **PRET-A-PORTER** (15). Surprisingly feeble satire on the fashion world from Robert Altman With Kim Basinger, Sophia Loren, Marcello Mastroianni, Stephen Rea and many others
Electric ◪ (0171-792 2020) **MGMs: Fulham Road** (0171-370 2636) **Tottenham Court Road** (0171-636 6148) **Odeons: Swiss Cottage** (01426 914098) **West End** (01426 915574) **UCI Whiteleys** ◪ (0171-792 3332)

LES ROSEAUX SAUVAGES (15). Sensitive drama about French provincial adolescents during the Algerian War a childhood reminiscence from director André Techiné.
MGM Panton Street (071-930 0631)

CURRENT

EVEN COWGIRLS GET THE BLUES (15). Unwieldly version of Tom Robbins's zany novel from cult director Gus Van Sant. Uma Thurman heads a cameo-strewn cast.
MGM Piccadilly (0171-437 3561) **Prince Charles** (0171-437 8181)

◆ **INTERVIEW WITH THE VAMPIRE** (18). Tom Cruise shows Brad Pitt the vampire way of life. Dull, over-stuffed version of Anne Rice's book. Director, Neil Jordan.
MGMs: Tottenham Court Road (0171-636 6148) Trocadero ◪ (0171-434 0031) **UCI Whiteleys** ◪ (0171-792 3332) **Warner** ◪ (0171-437 4343)

◆ **NATURAL BORN KILLERS** (18). Warped lovers embark on a shooting rampage, with the media in pursuit. Wearisome excess from director Oliver Stone; with Woody Harrelson and Juliette Lewis
Clapham Picture House (0171-498 3323) **Gate** ◪ (0171-727 4043) **MGM Chelsea** (0171-352 5096) **Odeons: Kensington** (01426 914668) **Swiss Cottage** (01426 914098) **West End** (01426 915574) **Screen/Baker Street** (0171-935 2772) **UCI Whiteleys** ◪ (0171-792 3332)

CINEMA GUIDE

Geoff Brown's assessment of films in London and (where indicated with the symbol ◆) on release across the country

◆ **ONLY YOU** (PG): Lazy blend of comedy, romance and travelogue, with Robert Downey Jr. and Marisa Tomei. Director, Norman Jewison.
MGM Trocadero ◪ (0171-434 0031) **Odeon Mezzanine** ◪ (01426 915683) **UCI Whiteleys** ◪ (0171-792 3332)

◆ **PULP FICTION** (18): Quentin Tarantino's flamboyant crime epic weaves together three tales from the LA underworld. With John Travolta, Bruce Willis and Samuel L. Jackson.
MGMs: Fulham Road ◪ (0171-370 2636) **Haymarket** (0171-839 1527) **Odeon Marble Arch** (01426 914501) **Warner** ◪ (0171-437 4343)

◆ **QUIZ SHOW** (15): Director Robert Redford resurrects a TV scandal of the late 1950s. Fine performances (John Turturro, Ralph Fiennes, Paul Scofield), but not enough bite, or relevance.
Barbican ◪ (0171-638 8891) **MGM Chelsea** (0171-352 5096) **Odeons: Haymarket** (01426 915353) **Kensington** (01426 914668) **Swiss Cottage** (01426 914098) **Screen/Hill** ◪ (0171-435 3366) **UCI Whiteleys** ◪ (0171-792 3332) **Warner** ◪ (0171-437 4343)

◆ **THE RIVER WILD** (12): Criminals imperil a family on their white water rafting holiday. Enjoyable action thriller, with Meryl Streep and Kevin Bacon.
Barbican ◪ (0171-638 8891) **Clapham Picture House** (0171-498 3323) **Empire** ◪ (0800 888911) **MGMs: Baker Street** (0171-935 9772) **Fulham Road** (0171-370 2636) **Trocadero** ◪ (0171-434 0031) **Notting Hill Coronet** ◪ (0171-727 6705) **UCI Whiteleys** ◪ (0171-792 3332)

◆ **THE ROAD TO WELLVILLE** (18): Frolics and chicanery at a turn-of-the-century sanitarium. Overdone health food satire, with Anthony Hopkins, Bridget Fonda, Matthew Broderick. Director, Alan Parker.
Warner ◪ (0171-437 4343)

◆ **RUDYARD KIPLING'S THE JUNGLE BOOK**: Muddled live-action adventures of jungle boy Mowgli. With Jason Scott Lee, Lena Headley, Cary Elwes. Director, Stephen Sommers.
MGM Trocadero ◪ (0171-434 0031) **UCI Whiteleys** ◪ (0171-792 3332)

◆ **SHALLOW GRAVE** (18): Wickedly enjoyable comedy-thriller about three Edinburgh chums and a corpse loaded with money. Danny Boyle directs.
MGMs: Fulham Road (0171-370 2636) **Haymarket** (0171-839 1527) **Shaftesbury Avenue** (0171-836 6279) **Warner** ◪ (0171-437 4343)

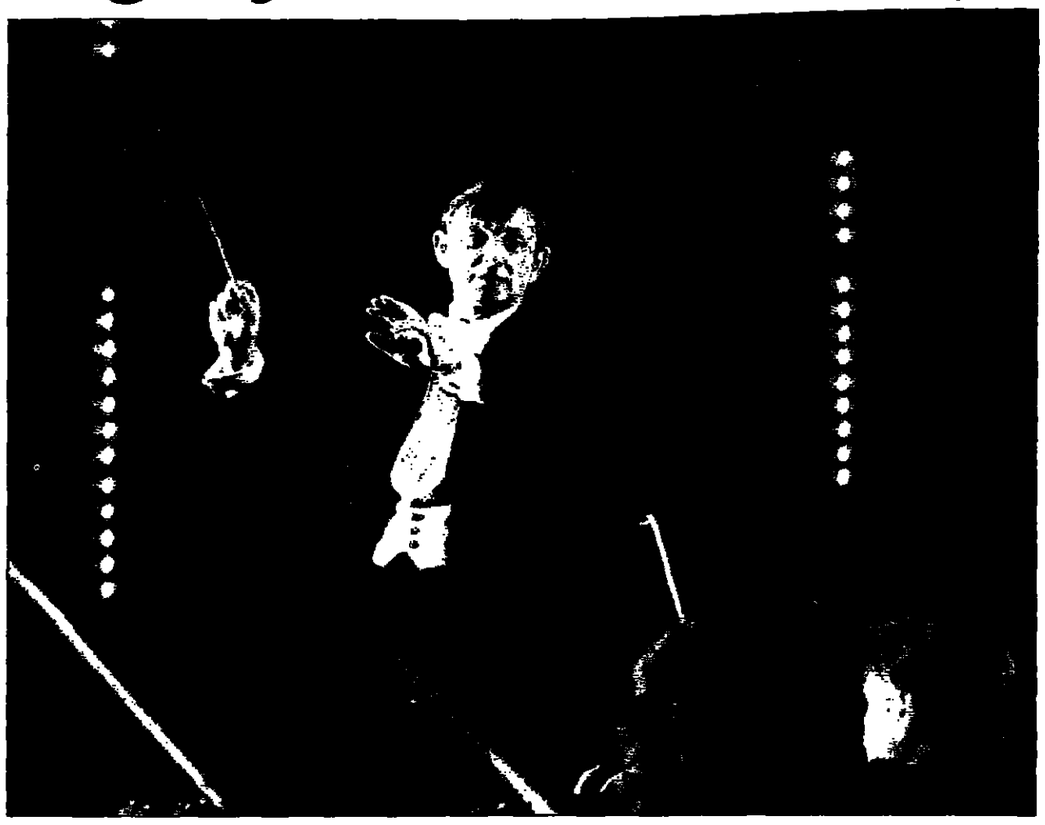
◆ **THE SHAWSHANK REDEMPTION**: How to survive long decades in prison. Engrossing drama with Tim Robbins and Morgan Freeman. Director, Frank Darabont.
MGM Chelsea (0171-352 5096) **Odeons: Kensington** (01426 914668) **Leicester Square** (01426 915683) **Swiss Cottage** (01426 914098) **UCI Whiteleys** ◪ (0171-792 3332)

SOLITAIRE FOR 2 (15): Body-language lecturer pursues archaeologist with ESP. Awkward comedy from Pig Farmer co-director Gary Sinyor. With Mark Frankel and Amanda Playa.
MGM Trocadero ◪ (0171-434 0031) **Warner** ◪ (0171-437 4343)

◆ **STAR TREK: GENERATIONS** (PG): Tatty but acceptable film debut for the stars of television's *Star Trek: The Next Generation*. Patrick Stewart's Captain Picard meets William Shatner's Kirk. Director, David Carson.
Empire (0800 888911) **MGM Baker Street** (0171-935 9772) **Fulham Road** ◪ (0171-370 2636) **Trocadero** ◪ (0171-434 0031) **Plaza** (0800 888997) **UCI Whiteleys** ◪ (0171-792 3332)

Thoroughly modern Trevor

Once confined to the Baroque, Trevor Pinnock has discovered new music and Canada. Hilary Finch met him



Pinnock: "When I came to Canada, I had the joy of finding I responded to new music as I respond to any other"

A venerable *Canadian* joke runs as follows. "Where in Ottawa do you go for a good time?" Answer: "Montreal". Canada's sedate seat of government has a habit of repeating the wry question to itself and its visitors at every possible opportunity. It is part of the *resigned sense of grievance* felt by this revolving-door capital. From loggers to legislators, traders to tourists, they come and they go, passing through west to Toronto, east to Montreal and to Quebec. The industry and tourism minister recently enraged the city by omitting Ottawa from the government's latest travel promotion.

But there is another answer to the little riddle, and that is: the National Arts Centre. A Barbican-like complex of buildings, it was built in the late 1960s as the capital's cultural flagship. Opera used to flourish there; John Wood and Robert Lepage have been directors of its English and French Theatres.

Now, despite a lively theatre and ballet season, there are no resident companies, and the last remaining jewel in its crown is the NAC Orchestra. It arrives in Britain on Friday as part of its 15-city tour of *Europe, led by an artistic* director and principal conductor who has, within the last three years, restored morale after a period of industrial and artistic disputes, created a sellout Baroque series, and raised subscriptions by 20 per cent. That man is our own Trevor Pinnock.

In Ottawa, the Canterbury-born harpsichordist and founder-director of the English Concert functions as something of a different creature. Canada is Pinnock's New Found Land; and what he discovered there was contemporary music.

He was first invited as a guest conductor to focus on Baroque repertoire. But when, in 1991, he accepted the position of principal conductor of this closely-bonded 46-piece chamber orchestra Pinnock saw the need to re-establish its sense of musical purpose. "To prove its value in the community — a value that was being questioned in some quarters."

He moved fast. He would demonstrate his orchestra's direct responsibility to Canadian audiences and musicians by a vigorous promotion of their own new music. "When I was a teenager I was tremendously interested in 20th-century music. Then when I started specialising in the Baroque, I took less and less notice of what was going on. When I came here, I had the joy of finding I responded to new music in just the same way I respond to any other: with the stomach first and the head second!"

The primary physical, powerfully rhythmic pieces of 38-year-old Montreal-born Linda Bouchard appealed at once to Pinnock who, within a year of his own appointment, had engaged her as composer-in-residence with responsibilities for an annual contemporary music festival, 20th-century orchestral workshops and regular commissions. Pinnock remembers the shock of her first score landing on his desk. "It looked like Chinese to me! I left it lying around in the house, and every time I walked past it, I'd just glance at a page. One day it suddenly looked different. I had been making the elementary error of reading it downwards — as I would Handel — instead of reading it across!"

What Pinnock saw — and went on enthusiastically to perform — was "very complex music, written very simply so that it is a joy to rehearse; and therein lies its craftsmanship." *Vertige*, a highly-charged six-minute work commissioned especially for the tour (and to be played in Leeds and London) uses the orchestra as a virtuoso instrument. Dense energy masses move in and out of definition: Bouchard uses the image of spray blown by the wind from a towering waterfall, or the unpredictability of birds in flight.

In addition to programming new Canadian works into the orchestra's main concert series, Pinnock has also set up a regularly sold-out Baroque series and — shamelessly and fearlessly — a "light classics" series, to broaden both the NAC orchestra's audience and its repertoire, and to release funds for 20th-century music.

In the six years he has spent in Canada he has created the only steadily increasing orchestra audience in the country, and initiated a new series of recordings on the French Opus 111 label with Grigory Sokolov, whose Chopin Piano Concerto in Ottawa made quite an impression on Pinnock. They start to record the Beethoven piano concertos next year.

Pinnock's Ottawa contract has been extended for a further two years. But then he, too, will leave through those revolving doors. "I love this orchestra, but to run it as I would really want to, I would have to spend more time with them than ten weeks a year. And when I asked myself what was the one thing I really wanted to do above all others, I knew it was getting back to playing the harpsichord.

"I want to become more selective in my solo work, and in what I do with my own orchestra. I hope I may see the English Concert developing into fully-staged opera. That would complete the work which we do. More and more it matters to me that everything I do should have a special purpose."

● *The NAC Orchestra of Canada, conducted by Trevor Pinnock, will visit City Hall, Newcastle (0191-261 2606), the Town Hall, Leeds (0113 247/6962), and the Barbican Centre, London (071-638 8891) on Friday, Saturday and Sunday respectively*

NEW MUSIC: In Birmingham, Judith Weir's latest instrumental work receives its premiere

Exotic aural landscape of southeast London

BCMG/Parrott
Adrian Boult Hall

IT IS unfortunate for Judith Weir that the first new piece of hers to be heard after her appointment as Composer in Association with the City of Birmingham Symphony Orchestra — in succession to the high-profile incumbency of Mark Anthony Turnage — does not represent her at her best. The audience which heard the first performance of her latest work, in a concert by Andrew Parrott and the Birmingham Contemporary Music Group in the Adrian Boult Hall, will have been reassured that further contact with her music is unlikely to be either boring or intimidating. But what, they might well have wondered, will she have to offer beyond the apparently quite ordinary imagination and technique displayed in *Musicians Wrestle Everywhere*?

The answer is that given the right inspiration, a concept that stimulates her acutely developed sense of irony, Weir can be not only as entertaining but also as subtle and as disturbing as any of her contemporaries. The idea behind the new piece, which is based on the street music of her urban environment — "the exotic landscape of London SE17", as she so characteristically describes it — seemed promising. The title, taken from the first line of a poem by Emily Dickinson, is intriguing, as is the instrumentation. But *Musicians Wrestle Everywhere* is neither the collection of *objets trouvés* one might have expected nor the highly processed product of recycling which would have been the alternative.

She insists, to a discouragingly minimalist extent, on the rhythms of what one takes to be Nigerian pop music issuing from a nearby tower block and combines them with attractive samples of unsophisticated melodic material, creating no atmosphere and no structural tension.

The framework of the concert was a Towards the Millennium exercise in the 1940s, beginning with Stravinsky's Mass in an aptly cryptic performance by the Taverner Choir and ending at the other stylistic extreme with Messiaen's *Quatuor pour la fin du temps*. Between them, alongside the Weir, was Geoffrey Poole's totally unironic *Magnification of the Virgin*, originally commissioned as a foil to the Stravinsky Mass and sounding just as effective in that role as it did three years ago.

GERALD LARNER

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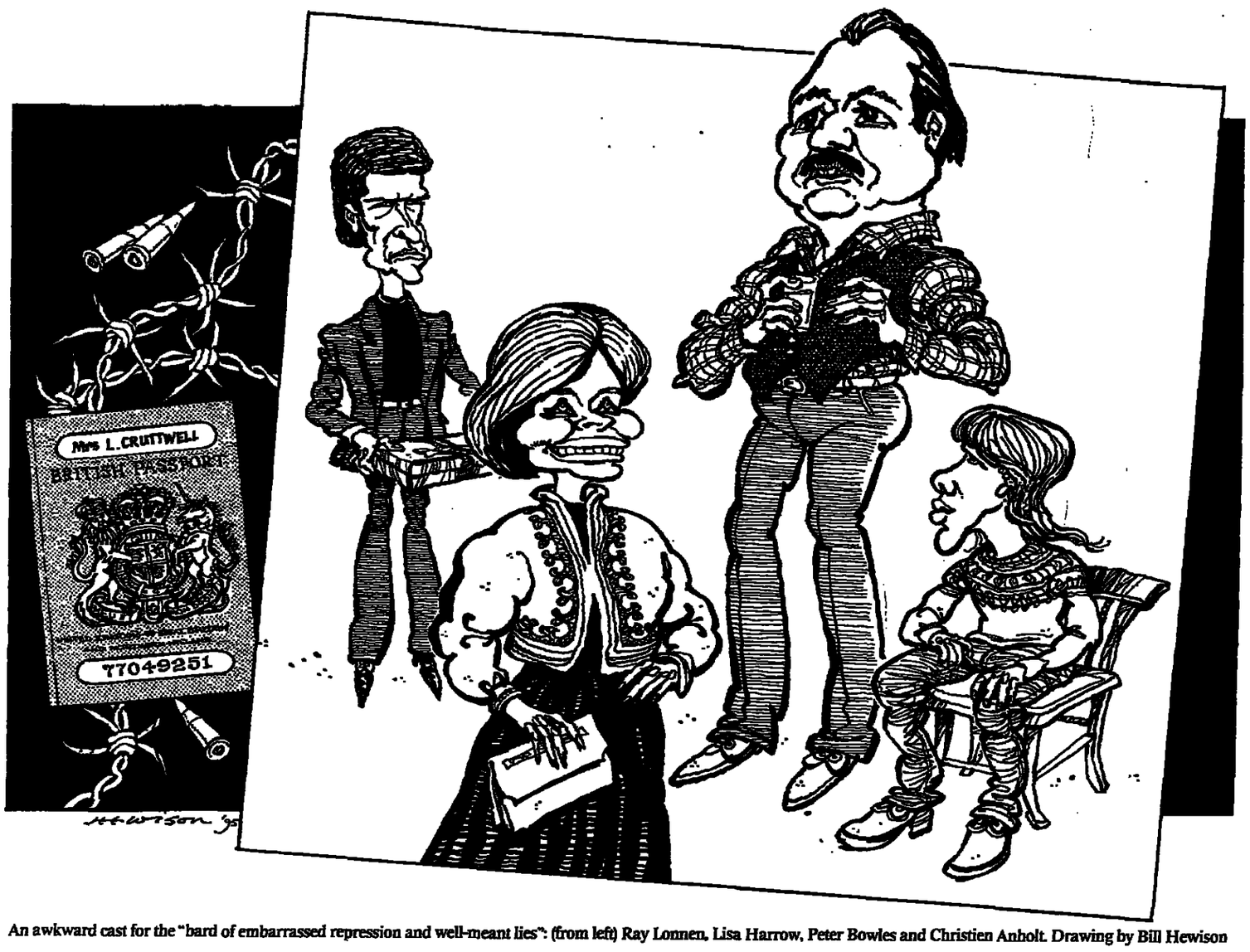
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Upper lips stiff and wooden

THEATRE: Rattigan's lament for English reserve may be dated, but its worth shines through despite this shallow revival, says **Benedict Nightingale**



An awkward cast for the "bard of embarrassed repression and well-meant lies": (from left) Ray Lonnen, Lisa Harrow, Peter Bowles and Christien Anholt. Drawing by Bill Hewison

Terence Rattigan based this touching play on his observation of Rex Harrison as Kay Kendall succumbed to leukaemia. Had so self-absorbed a husband started behaving in a considerate, outgoing way, Kendall would have guessed that her sickness was more serious than anybody admitted, so the rows continued as normal. After one ferocious bust-up, Harrison actually threw the terminally ill woman's clothes out of her hotel suite, then locked the door on her.

"You wouldn't tell me I'm not dying if I were, would you?" she asked as she lay in hospital. "Of course not, you silly little fool. See you tomorrow," replied Harrison. That was their last conversation. She died a few hours later.

In his biography of Harrison, Alexander Walker adds a suggestive gloss to the tale. He has evidence that Kendall knew how ill she was, but wanted Harrison neither to know nor to know she knew. Could there be a more English situation, in or out of *Brief Encounter*?

Certainly that seems to have been Rattigan's view when he penned his tale of the grumpy critic, Sebastian, and his wise, saintly wife, Lydia, each conspiring in the other's ignorance.

Back in 1973 not even Donald Sinden and Joan Greenwood were able to make a critical and commercial success of the first production of *In Praise of Love*, partly because Rattigan's reputation was itself still on the sick-list, partly because the play proper came with an idiot curtain-raiser, a burlesque of *Tosca* called *Before Dawn*. Thankfully, that has been dropped here.

In Praise of Love
Apollo

What remains is a piece that seems simultaneously poignant and dated, worth reviving in itself but, thanks to Richard Olivier's less-than-tense production, dubiously worth its slot on Shaftesbury Avenue.

The main reason the play dates is Sebastian's political credo. He spends a lot of time spouting a sort of champagne Marxism and mocking his son, an aspiring playwright who is an active member of what at the time was a trendily subversive organisation, the Young Liberals. This produces little heat, less light, nothing but the odd distracting flicker. But that need not greatly affect our appreciation of what really matters in the play: the love the husband has for his wife, and she for him, all appearances to the contrary.

Peter Bowles's literary critic exudes a selfishness so blithely absolute you feel he really ought to be wearing a Garrick Club nappy. His performance is witty and intelligent, but lacking in the blackness of feeling the situation finally demands.

Similarly, Lisa Harrow's Lydia has a pluck and a warmth that hides little but more pluck and warmth. They are not helped by making their separate confessions to a confidant who, as played by Ray Lonnen, treats matters deeply pathetic and hideously ironic with all the feeling of a table loaded with crockery. It is a challenge, having continually to deliver lines like "How do you know?" and "What then?"; but emotional mahogany is not the answer.

Still, the play makes its point. Maybe the *vice anglais* is not pederasty but "our refusal to admit to our emotions". So Sebastian says, and so Rattigan thought and repeated in piece after piece. He was the bard of embarrassed repression and well-meant lies, and, whatever its fate here, *In Praise of Love* was one of his most articulate laments.



DONALD COOPER

Roderick Williams is a thoroughly dangerous Tarquin while Klara Uleman unleashes her glowing mezzo to thrill as Lucretia

OPERA: Young singers reach new heights in a fine performance

Troubled by student power

The Rape of Lucretia
Guildhall School

THERE IS a startling coup de théâtre at the very end of Stephen Medcalf's admirably austere and concentrated production of *Lucretia* for the Guildhall School of Music and Drama students. During the orchestral postlude the platform at the centre of Francis O'Connor's classically simple decor splits and floats off into the wings, leaving only a white cross set on a red stage-cloth with the Male and Female Chorus perched on it.

Like all good symbols, it can mean anything you choose it to mean — the Church central and dominant, or the Church isolated and marginalised. The furtive stance of the Choruses tended to suggest the latter, but perhaps they were just frightened of falling off. Either way, Medcalf was emphasising the absolute centrality of the Christian commentators on the pagan action and the extent of their equivocal collusion in it. *Lucretia* — a sort of heterosexual *Billy Budd* — grows more troubling every time you hear it.

This was a very fine performance, conducted by Clive Timms with both dramatic urgency and proper attention to the purely instrumental beauties of the score. The standard of playing was impressive. Medcalf provoked a certain degree of corresponding audience collusion by making the central act unsettlingly erotic — within the bounds of decency, I hasten to add — which increased the troublesome factor. Audiences should, perhaps, be more repelled by the rape than they were invited to be.

Should one be cross about the number of students from abroad at our conservatoires, mindful of so much native talent unsupported by cash-strapped authorities? Or flattered to be so favoured a training ground for young European musicians? Either way, the contributions in the first of two alternating casts of the Norwegian Terje Andersen (Male Chorus) and Rotterdam-born Klara Uleman (Lucretia) were outstanding.

Andersen's beautiful and free tenor sound was one thing, and his faultlessly clear English diction quite another — in both respects he cast none too flattering a light on Lesley Cook's disappointingly tight-toned, near-consonant-free Female Chorus. Uleman's Lucretia started quietly; admittedly, the role is by no means showy in the first act, but in the second she unleashed her firm, glowing mezzo to thrilling effect. Her diction, too, was impeccable. Roderick Williams was a thoroughly dangerous Tarquin — "panther-agile" indeed — but one who sang the role with beguiling musicianship, a true vocal sculptor in the way he shaped Britten's phrases.

This was true of the cast as a whole — of Fiona McAndrew's sweetly twittering Lucia, Lydia Marchione's grave Bianca, Michael Dewis's shifty Junius and Julian Saipe's almost over-smug Collatinus. Thanks to the ministrations of an experienced music staff, you felt these young artists were singing just that bit better than even they themselves thought they could, which is what can make student performances exciting to even the most blasé opera buff.

There are repeats today and Friday — warmly recommended.

RODNEY MILNES

ROCK



Faith No More: two terrific bands for the price of one

Killing joker

Faith No More
UEA, Norwich

SINGER Mike Patton begins this concert apparently in the grip of demons; he ends it singing the Bee Gees' *I Started A Joke*. Faith No More specialise in such slightly bewildering contrasts.

Despite album sales running into the millions, their current tour takes them to modestly sized venues. Their set moves between brutalised thrashes and lilting country rock. And, although the band's founding members — Billy Gould (bass), Mike Bordin (drums) and Roddy Bottum (keyboards) — have been together since 1982, they have been through three guitarists in the past year.

The confusion makes for an unsettling night. Patton looks ordinary enough in his grey T-shirt and jeans, but, for the first few numbers, he is like a caged animal, sometimes crouched on all fours or bent double, sometimes with his back to the audience.

He roars out the lyrics in a manic rage, using an impressive voice to deliver demented shrieks and agonised cries. The rest of the band drives home his anguish with thundering riffs, taken at a frantic pace, and delivered with imperious skill.

Suddenly, though, the mood lightens, as the band slips into the jazz-tinged *Evidence*, which boasts a guitar solo that might have been borrowed from George Benson. But then it's back to the asylum, before relief comes again in the form of a very respectful cover of the Commodores' *Easy*, a hit for Faith No More in 1993.

It is almost as if there are two different groups on stage; one determined to keep alive the raucous mixture of metal and rap; the other desperate to try out new styles.

The tensions become most apparent with *Take This Bottle*, one of the songs on their forthcoming album *King For A Day... Fool For A Lifetime*. This country lament, with its elegant piano accompaniment, is delivered dead straight, but Patton, who stands stock-till for these gentler numbers, leads the band in several reprises of the chorus. Each repeat, however, comes over as a veiled threat, as if he knows *this* is not what the diehard fans want to hear — one more time, with real sarcasm.

You begin to wonder whether even Patton likes the song. It's as if, for Faith No More, their show is an argument conducted by other means.

JOHN STREET

WIN A TRIP TO BOSTON

THE TIMES THE THEATRE CLUB

THE Mark Morris Dance Group, sensation of the past three Edinburgh Festivals, is about to begin its first national tour of Britain. In June, though, Morris will be unveiling his latest work — and the winner of our competition will be in Boston to see it.

The winning Theatre Club member, and a friend, will fly on American Airlines from Heathrow on the morning of Friday, June 9, and spend two nights at the Boston Park Plaza Hotel. The premiere is on June 10, and the return flight leaves Boston on Sunday evening, arriving back at Heathrow on the Monday morning.

To enter the competition, answer the three questions below and send the answers, together with your name, address, daytime telephone number and Theatre Club membership number to The Theatre Club, Euston House, 81-103 Euston Street, London NW1 2ET. The winner will be the first correct entry drawn after the closing date, March 20.

The questions are:

● On which ballet is Mark Morris's ballet *The Hard Nut* based? a) *Sleeping Beauty*; b) *The Nutcracker*; c) *Swan Lake*.

● Which American television series is based in Boston? a) *Cheers*; b) *Boston*; c) *thirtysomething*; d) *Baywatch*.

● AA 155 will be the second daily scheduled flight to Boston from Heathrow by which US airline?

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DANCE: Northern world premiere

Too rich a feast

The Brontës
Grand Theatre, Leeds

NORTHERN Ballet Theatre's commitment to telling a good story is admirable. But someone should have told Gillian Lynne that how you tell a tale is more important than what you tell. *The Brontës*, her new dance-drama for NBT, is packed with enough stories to fill half a dozen evenings at the Grand Theatre, leaving her so weighed down with narrative that there is little time or space to develop, or even differentiate, characters.

And what characters they are. Patrick Brontë, a Classics scholar at Cambridge who became a Yorkshire curate and fathered an extraordinary literary family. Daughters who gave the world some of the greatest romantic novels ever — *Jane Eyre* and *Wuthering Heights* among them. And a wayward son whose taste for drugs and alcohol ruined a brief and colourful life.

Lynne's mistake (and Christopher Gable's too, since he co-devised it) lies in trying to give all the characters and incidents equal status and emphasis. Each of the three acts is broken into six or seven scenes, each lasting a few minutes. Although the transition from one scene to the next is smooth, the overall effect is bitty. Lynne's determination to detail every aspect of life at Haworth Parsonage forces her into an episodic straitjacket which precludes the development of a thematic structure. The choreography serves the catalogue of events without embodying the essence of the characters' experiences — or generating the requisite sympathy for their individual tragedies.

The story is told through the eyes of Patrick, who opens the ballet having just buried the last of his six children. The rest is a flashback trawl through more than 40 years of his life, beginning with his marriage in 1812. Helpful spoken passages (Derek Jacobi as Patrick, Judi Dench as Charlotte) fill in the more complicated plot developments and, most irritatingly, substitute for movement at the very moments of grief and rage when body language is called for.

Occasionally Lynne's choreography does transcend its own literalness. Scenes in Act I evoke the joy of the shared fantasy life of the Brontë children. A pas de deux in Act II for Cathy and Heathcliff — with Emily orchestrating her fictional moors lovers from the sidelines — captures a certain wildness of spirit. And Charlotte's Act III love duet finds a measure of passion previously lacking in the ballet.

Dominic Muldowney's commissioned score falls into the same trap as the choreography: too much plodding detail, not enough sweep. Only Lez Brotherston gets it right, with designs that are spare and effective. A large white frame both encloses the action and opens it out on to the painted misted moors behind.

As Charlotte, Jayne Regan produced the most well-rounded characterisation on opening night, while William Walker was a driven Branwell and Charlotte Broom an intense Emily. Peter Parker, as Patrick, did what he could with the little he was given.

Monday's gala world premiere in Leeds, in the presence of Prince Edward, was sponsored by BT.

DEBRA CRAINE

CONCERT

Grappling with myth

BBC SO/Davis
Festival Hall

THE concerto soloist's traditional role is that of heroic protagonist. What, therefore, could be more appropriate to symbolise the conflict between soloist and orchestra than a wrestling match?

For his Concerto for Trumpet and Orchestra, given its world premiere by Graham Ashton with the BBC Symphony Orchestra under Andrew Davis, David Sawer took the fight between Hercules and Antaeus as his inspiration. Antaeus, as the son of Mother Earth, drew sustenance from her every time he was thrown to the ground. Hercules was therefore able to win only by holding his opponent above his head until his strength ran out. Sawer depicts all this — the struggles, the renewed energy, the final holding aloft — with a formidable battery of orchestral forces, including tomtoms, cowbells and football rattles.

He also cleverly uses the intervals between the struggles — when the fighters circle each other looking for an advantage — as opportunities to vary the level of tension. In one of these "dances", the soloist effectively engages with a muted trumpet in the orchestra, and later he clashes with three offstage trumpets. With the expanded percussion also in full cry (the fights are depicted by, respectively, metal, wood, skin and metal instruments) the soloist has to work hard to gain sovereignty. It was nevertheless a heroic and creditable effort.

In the remaining items, Davis reaffirmed his credentials as an authoritative Elgarian in warm-blooded but discriminating performances of *Falstaff* and the *Enigma Variations*. The former began in quite restrained fashion, but certainly filled out in good time. The *Variations* were moved along smartly: each character was painted with just enough depth to register: surely preferable to the bloated impressions we sometimes get.

BARRY MILLINGTON



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COOMBE HILL 4 bed house on superb plot approx .9 acre in best position on private estate. 160ft frontage to golf course. Redevel. potential. G.P.P. Hewes & Co. 081 946 5547

SOUTH OF THE THAMES

PURLEY
Spacious detached family house in elevated position enjoying panoramic views. Large drawing room, sun room, dining room, luxury hand built kitchen with granite worktops and French terracotta floor, utility room. 4 bedrooms, one with ensuite shower room, w.c and ensuite. Victorian style hand built mahogany family bathroom with roll top cast iron bath. Garage, shed and greenhouse. Gas central heating and double glazing.
£210,000
Tel 081 668 3387
After 3.30 pm

BECKENHAM
Det. Vict. house. Many original features. Good for schools & commuting. 3 recep, 5-6 beds, 2 baths, cellar, gas CH, conservatory, 115' gdn.
£255,000 o.n.o.
081 650 0063

BY WANDSWORTH COMMON
Bright, spacious 1 bed flat, newly dec, in secure grvt blck. Video entry phn. Off/st pkg, shared gdn. BR., shops, restaurants. No chain.
£59,950
081 871 2904

RODENHURST ROAD SW4
Victorian semi-detached house. 4 bed, 2 bath (1 ensuite), 1 asp WC, 3 recep, large attic for conversion. Off street parking. 45ft garden.
£320,000.
Telephone
081 674 3466.

SW12
Charming unusual 2 bed mews house, galleried antico floored kitchen, newly fitted bathroom, secure off street parking, no chain.
£125,000
081 675 8210.

WANDSWORTH COMMON SW11
Victorian family house in quiet tree lined road yards from common. 3/3 recep, kit/b'fast room, 5/6 beds, 2 baths, cellar garden
£325,000
Tel 071 228 7316

BATTERSEA PARK (near to) spacious family home having undergone considerable prof refurbishment. Pass to customise to purchasers requirements. £265,000 f/h 081 944 6653 (T)

SHEEN Cnr Richmond Pk. An Edwardian character hse with scope for loft conversion & sep annexe/studio. Hall, 3 recepts, kit, utl rm, cls rm, cellar, 4 beds, bath, GCH. 95ft gdn. 2 gges + OSP. FH £329,950. Site view 081 878 0739 thereafter Michael Gregory 081 392 2217

TONSLEYS SW18. Alma Rd Newly mod Vict cottage, double recep, kit. 2 beds, large bthrm. Garden. £149,500. F/H. Bramford Rd. Attractive Vict cottage double recep, kit/breakfast rm. 2 beds, dble bthrm, garden. £157,500. F/H. Dalby Rd. Vict cottage open plan recep, kit, 2 beds, large bthrm. W facing garden. £163,500 F/H. Roehm Estates. Sunday only 081-674 4572. Mon-Sat 871 2633

WARDS.CMNS./Balham. 2 bd 1st flr flt. Close to tbe & Ballview Rd. £90,000. 081 675 9167

WESTMINSTER

FREEHOLD House on 4 floors offering spacious accommodation. Newly refurbished 3 beds, 2 baths. Ideal opportunity to purchase a town house at an excellent price. £260,000 Tel: 071 828 2424. Grangevist & Co

WIMBLEDON

DORA ROAD SW19
Modernised spacious 6 bed/2both Edwardian semi detached house. Mature gardens. Views over London. In good order. Convenient trains, shops, schools.
£275,000
No chain
Tel . 081 946 6752.
(Eves/wkends). No agents.

BERKSHIRE

Upper Woolhampton
Modern 3 miles, Reading 11 miles. M4 (J12) 7 miles.
A Listed Cottage in need of total modernisation with 2.66 acres garden and paddock. Situated about 3 Main rooms on ground floor, 4 rooms on first floor.
For Sale by Auction on Wednesday 29th March
Auction: LONDON OFFICE (071 409 2727)

THAMES SIDE
Magnificent 4 year old Detached Family Home, Sits. Purley-on-Thames, overlooking River & Meadowbrown Hills beyond. 4 beds, 2 rec, study, fge kitchen, utility, 2 baths, cloaks, admirals gallery, conservatory + many unique features. 50' mooring with shore power. £269,000.
Tel 0734 452211
(No Agents or Brokers)

CAMBRIDGESHIRE

RIVER FRONTAGE
4 ACRES - MARINA POOL
Huntingdon. Spacious 3 bedrm house with 2 bedrm annexe. Panoramic southerly views. 60 boat moorings produce £36,000 income. Planning permission for 35 extra moorings. Freehold.
£475,000
Tel 01424 848253

PETERBOROUGH. 2 bed flat with communal gardens overlooking River Nene. Set in a quiet village atmosphere part of the City. Ideal for commuting, approx 3 miles to mainline BR (London 45 mins), A1 access excellent. Leasehold £36,000. Call 0733 312701.

COTSWOLDS

EASTLEACH Lovely grade 2, 17C. 2 bed detached cotswold cottage in beautiful unspoilt village. £149,950. 01367 850469

DEVON & CORNWALL

PAIR Of adjacent cottages in delightful rural location near Exeter. 0392 841428 T

TORQUAY Superb ground floor period 3 bed apt in Regency villa set in beautiful private park & gdns. Parking & garaging. 6 mins to Marina & coast. £180,000. Tel 01392 499659 T

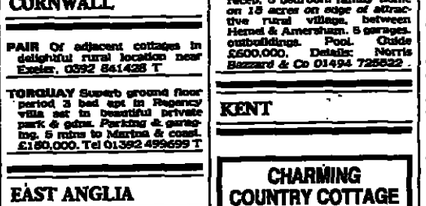
EAST ANGLIA

ESSEX/SUFFOLK BORDER
25 mins Saffron Walden, 10 mins Clare, 35 mins Cambridge. Secluded 4 bedroom Victorian house with beautiful 2 acre mature garden surrounded by fields.
£195,000
Tel 0440 788178

NORFOLK - THE OLD DRYING HOUSE
Forming part of award winning restoration of historic Gooton Hall set in beautiful parkland with lake. Approaching completion 2 bedrm, 2 bathrm, kit, sit/dining room. Small private garden to rear. Garage.
£130,000
TEL/FAX 01263 768387

NORTH NORFOLK - Cromer. Freehold, approx 2 acre site, south facing with views across town and sea. Outline P.P for 4 no. Executive dwellings or would suit one large dwelling. Offers, further details - 01263 511264. Quote Ref HB/23

SUSSEX



EAST SUSSEX - ROTHERFIELD.
Crowborough 3 miles, Tunbridge Wells 7 miles (Charing Cross/Cannon Street 45 minutes).
A spacious Family House on the edge of the Village with views over the surrounding Countryside.
Hall and 3 Reception Rooms, Kitchen, Utility Room, Cellar, 6 Bedrooms, Dressing Room, 2 Bathrooms, 2 Attic Rooms.
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About 17 Acres.
Apply: Mayfair Office Tel: 071 493 8676.

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TRADE: 0171-481 1986
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Overlooking the Marina & Royal Yacht Club, this 3 storey 3 bedroom townhouse at Southampton's Ocean Village offers you your own 10 meter mooring with direct access to deep sea. Only 1 hr central London
£140,000
including designer carpets/curtains.
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Property includes two tidal slipways, work shop, showroom, offices. Long lease. Suitable for chandlery, brokerage, boat building, sales etc. Over 5,000 sq ft, including 4,700 covered.
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01883 349241(eve)

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Fine period property (Late Queen Anne) set in 4 acres, 7 beds, 3 reception, gentlemens, self contained flat, stable block, 2 paddocks and gardens. Easy access to M5 and Birmingham
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0299 851248

BEWDLEY WORCS
Unique opportunity to acquire secluded country property, (4 beds; 3 car garage), adjoining Nature Reserve in Wyre Forest. Private drive; own lake & stream; swimming pool; 3½ acre natural woodland garden; easy 35/40 mins access central Birmingham. Reluctant sale due to job relocation.
Offers over £350,000
Tel 01299 402380

SHROPSHIRE/ WELSH BORDER
Scenic, safe area. Village, all amenities, not isolated. Main line station 3 miles. Modern detached. 3 double bed + guest suite/granny flat/holiday let. Lounge, dining, study, kitchen, utility, double garage, garden. Band G - £550 pa.
£155,000 ono
Tel 0938 556204

HERTFORDSHIRE

KINGS LANGLEY
Substantial desirable 1930's detached family home, 3 dble beds, farmhouse kitchen with Aga, utility rm, 2 recep, GCH, open fires, garage. Mature ½ acre plot. Easy access London.
£190,000.
0923 261672. No chain.

FLAUNDEN- Interesting listed 4 recep, 5 bedroom family home on 18 acres on edge of attractive rural village, between Hemel & Amersham. 5 garages, outbuildings. Pool. Guide £600,000. Details: Norris Bazzard & Co 01494 725522 -

KENT

CHARMING COUNTRY COTTAGE
Wateringbury, Kent. Cosy beamed reception, 2 bdrms, GCH, Long sunny garden, greenhouse, lovely setting, edge of village, 1 hr London, direct rail link Satwick
£70,000
Telephone 01622 812261

CHISLEHURST KENT
Unique 4 bed, split lev. hse in sought after conservation area in
CAMDEN PARK ROAD
Lg store rm, Dog rm, Study, Hall, Kit, Uty rm, 2 bth, 1 s/s, Silver rm, Many features, GCH, Built 72 with gdn all round, bld swim pool. Dbl garage. FH £250,000.
Tel 0181 467 9131

NR. CANTERBURY. £200,000. Historic Listed Tudor manor house with Victorian alterations, requiring some refurbishment. In a partly walled garden setting. 4 recps, 5 beds, 2 baths. GCH. Range of outbuildings. 1 acre. C/yard buildings, cottage and further land also available. Chutens, Canterbury (01227) 457441

TUNBRIDGE WELLS Grade II listed 16th C. 2 bed cottage, wealth of exposed beams. Ideal for commuting 39 mins London Bridge. £99,500. 0892 823380

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NORTH NOTTS VILLAGE
Easily run country house of great character with original beams. 6 bedrms, 2 bathrms, 3 reception, gas fired AGA, GCH, set in 1 acre of orchard & gardens. Outbuildings include dble garages & PB squash court. Additional paddock of 3.7 acres also available.
ONO £250,000.
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LUXURIOUS Living, Gibbet Hill, Coventry from Crosby Homes. The Arboretum offers a range of excellent 5 bedroom new homes - superb specification. 100% homes exchange available. From £192,000. Tel 01203 415719

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SURREY

MILFORD
5 bedrm/3 bathrm (2 ensuite), 3 reception rm country house set in 1 acre of mature treed garden undergoing total refurbishment. Double garage.
Offers in excess of £400,000.
All enquires leave message on
081 748 4224.

SURREY

OXSHOTT CROWN ESTATE
Tudor style family house offering generously proportioned rooms, 5 reception, 5 bedrms, big playroom/bedrm 6, triple garage block, in secluded landscaped grounds in sought after private estate. FHLD
£745,000
Tel: 01372 842758.

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In rural setting surrounded by beautiful golf course on edge of small village. Unique 6 yr old 5 bed, 2 bath, 3 reception house, large gardens, separate paddocks, stables, hay shed/brick buildings (existing income). 3 acres of land in total, lots of common land nearby. Nr. all amenities. 2½ mls M25.
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ESHER
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£895,000
Office 081 878 0029/ eve 081 785 6684
0831 639846 anytime

E. SHEEN
Nr Richmond
Easy access BR, elegant 1930's terraced house, situated in sought after area, The Royals, close to Richmond Park. Large recep rm, kit/brkfast rm, 3 dbl bdrms, GCH, secluded gdn, many original features.
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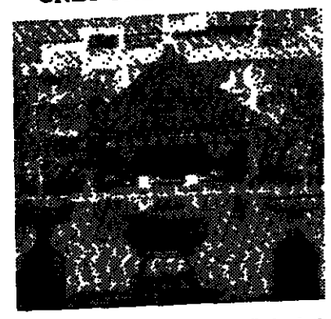
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RENTALS

AJA INTERNATIONAL Luxury flats & houses for long, short or holiday lets. All Central London areas. 071 724 4844

ACCOMMODATION to let in Hampstead/St. Johns Wood. Paytrena Ests. 0171-431 2000.

AMERICAN Executive (30's) seeks 1 bed flat for 1 yr co. let £200/300pw in N H Gate/Holland Park/Bayswater. Fontons 071 221 3634.

AMERICAN Bank seeks family accomodation in N H Gate/Holland Park/Kensington 4/5 beds £1,000 - £1,800pw Fontons 071 221 3634.

AMERICAN Executive (30's) seeks 1 bed flat for 1 yr co. let £200/300pw in N H Gate/Holland Park/Bayswater. Fontons 071 221 3634.

AMERICAN/European corporate employees seek quality homes SW1/3/6/7/10 Cabban & Gaselee 0171 589 8481

ANGLO FRENCH Company requires 2/3/4 bedroomed properties for employees being relocated to London, Knightsbridge, Chelsea areas. 1-3 yr lets. Ruck & Ruck 0171 581 1741.

ARE YOU Visiting London? Central Estates have quality flats and houses in Central London for long or short term rentals. 071 224 2244

BARNES Nr.Super luxury flats made. Patio 2 bds (1dbl). All cons. £188pw. 0171 794 4953.

BELSIZE PARK NW3. Lge 1 bdrm fl. Lge sit. rm, good size kit & bthrm, excel. natural light-ing, superb dec, garden throughout. £110pw. 071 586 8689 (w)/ 071 736 8098 (h)

BLOOMSBURY, WC1 - Lux 2 bed, 2 bath flat in p/b blk.FF exc dec order & loc £275 pw Cossins Joyce 0171 379 8300.

BOW 2 bed maisonette easy access to city & further afield. Professional people. Near tube & DLR. £175 pw. 081 980 0966

C.GATE, W9. Selec of aparts. Mod PB block. 24 hr port. u/park. Leisure complex. From £240pw 0171 625 6999.

CHANCERY LANE WC2 Mod 1 bed flat. £160pw. Telephone 071 404 7100 ref. PN/NC.

CHELSEA SW3 Good area. Attractive quiet flat, nr. restaurants & shops. 1 recep. 1 bed, K and B. £225pw 071 381 4167

CHELSEA Cheype area - Week day Pied a Terre. £95 pw. Day/Eve 071 352 2481/1982.

CHISWICK Bedford Park. double fronted House, close to fac. Turnham Green. Immaculate furn. double recep, dining room, luxury kit/break. utility rm. cellar. 6 beds, bathroom. shwrm. garden. £550pw Fontons 0181 996 1221.

CHISWICK Grove Park. Immaculate unfurn semi det house. 2 recep, fmy kitchen. DS. WC. bathroom with power shower. 100ft gdn. gge. OSP. £430pw Fontons 0181 996 1221.

CHISWICK Light 3 bed 2 recep hse, wooded floors & garden £350pw 0181 998 1706.

CLAPHAM COMMON Superb 2 bed, furnished balcony flat overlooking common in North-cote. All amenities & close to public transport. 1 year let only. £850 pcm. Tel 081 994 8248

CLAPHAM COMMON West Side, 4 bed Victorian house + garden. Avail furn or unfurn. Suit family or prof sharers. £400pw. Tel: 071 738 0033

DORSET SQ NW1 Modern 3 bed period conv. Spacious recep, beds, kit with washer. 3 baths, study, gst cloks. terr. £425pw KCG 0171 723 8988.

EALING COMMON Lge 5 bed family house. 3 recep, lge kit. gdn. £440pw 0181 749 3406.

EATON PLACE Belgravia. spacious flat furnished antiques etc, recep + dining area, dbl bdrm, 2nd bdrm/study, bthrm chw/ch. 071 386 5900

EATON PLACE SW1 Bright spacious 4 bed, 3 bath, 2 recep mais. £950pw. 081 455 3164

EUROPEAN Couple seek 2 bed apartment in N H Gate/Holland Park/Bayswater. High quality stock required. Fontons 071 221 3634

EUROPEAN Couple seek 2 bed apartment in N H Gate/Holland Park/Bayswater. High quality stock required. Fontons 071 221 3634

FRENCH EXECUTIVE recently relocated by London by an Bank urgently requires a 4 bed hse or fl close Lycee Francais to 8th Km for 2/3 yrs + no more than £1,100pw. 0171 370 6455.

GERMAN BUSINESSMAN looking for a 2/3 bedroom flat in Notting Hill or Nth Ken pref patio/terrace. £495 - £650pw on a yr renewable tenancy. Contact 0171 221 3934.

GROSVENOR SQ. New mews development of ltx 1/2/3 bed flats with gge. 1yr+ - from £450pw 081 332 7518.

HARROW character det 3 bed house. Fully fitted. Ovrlk etc balcnies. £300 pw. 081 942 9863.

HIGHBURY Delightful terrace Mews House. On 3 floors. 3 beds. 2 baths (incl shower room). Lounge dining room. kit/break utility rm. Amenities: Gas fired CH Audio Entryphone. f/furn & carpeted to a very high standard with integral Garage. £1,000pcm (01458) 367891.

HIGHGATE VILLAGE N6 s/c 3 bedrm furn maisonette ch small gdn £280pw 0181 488 9140

HOLLAND PK W11. Wonderful 1st dec to v.good quality one bed flat.dble recep.exc f/f kit.bath. close tube + pk £435 pw neg. F W Gapp 0171 243 0964.

HYDE PARK W2 Unfurn lux apt 3 bed, 2 bath,2 rec, secure portered blk. Pkg, balconies, southerly views over Pk. £500pw KCG 0171-724 1222.

HYDE PARK W2 Lux 4 bed house, garage. £360pw. 081 671 485 0517.

ITALIAN NAVAL OFFICER urgently requires a lge recently decorated 2 bed flt/hse within 10 mins of East Putney Station for 2 yrs. Rent negotiable £250-£280pw 0181 788 8000.

JAPANESE BANKER immediately requires 3/4 bed family hse.W/SW London (pref Chiswick) rent £450-£600pw Min 2yrs 0181 995 1221

KENSINGTON W8: 2 top floor 3 bed flats to let, spacious and bright.Able recep, 2 baths, ent'to f/f kit £260 & £425pw neg. F W Gapp 0171 243 0964.

KENSINGTON Totally refurb hse nr Gloucester Rd tube in Quiet res mews. 3 bed, 2 bath, gge. fl kit. £475pw. 081 946 6922

KNIGHTSBRIDGE. Marylebone, near St. Lux executive 3 bed 2 bath flats from £570pw. Executive Homes 0171 724 9919.

KNIGHTSBRIDGE Opp. Harrods. Lux 2 bed flat in 24hr portered block. Short/long let. from £428pw. 0836 278961

LUXURY Flats urgently req'd in SW3, W2, NW8 & surrounding areas. Call Japanese Executive 081-680 8291/071-437 9166

MANAGEMENT - Chemist just recently transferred to London requires 1/2 bed flat in Battersea for a period of 18 months not more than £220pw. 0171 738 0053.

MAYFAIR. Urgent lst adjacent Berkeley Square. Luxury 2 bed, 2 bath flat rent pw £428 now £375 pw ono. Michael Tims & Co. 0171 409 2525

MAYFAIR Dble bed, dble sofabed room, bath,kitchen, recep. 1st fl with lift & port. Immac order £360pw 071 629 0765.

MAYFAIR Large lux studios sep kit & bath £190pw. Also large 3 bed 3 bath flat from £850 Executive Homes 0171 724 9919

MAYFAIR W1 Lux. bed. Bath. Recep in superb Mayfair house. £295pcm. 071 499 4010

MAYFAIR. Superb 3 dble bed 2/4 baths, 2 recepts. 2nd fl.lift & porter. parking £1,175 pcm. 071 629 0782.

MFAIR CHELSEA K'SIDE Lux f/f 1 to 5 bed flats short/long lets fr £260pw 071 376 1976

PORTLAND PLACE W1 Unfurn lux apt. 3 bed, 3 bath. 2 rec., gge. Secure portered conv nr Pk £960pw KCG 0171 724 1222.

PRIMROSE HILL NW3 3 beds, 2 recepts, townhouse, newly refur. Gge, gdn, furn/unfurn. £800pw 0171 625 6999.

PROPS avail for rent Central London from £120pw Free List. Cossins Joyce 0171 379 8300.

S KEN - Drayton Gardens lux 4 bed 2 bath. Special at £900pw Alison 071 935 1774

ST JOHNS WOOD Carlton Hill. Attractive newly refurb hse 4 firs. close to shops, American School. St Johns Wood tube & Regents Park. Master bedrm, en suite bath, 4 further beds, 2 further bathrms. 3 recep, f/f kit & util rm. New 8 year full repairing & insuring let. Rent £1,000 pw. Daniel Smith Mon-Fri 9-5.30 T:0171 483 2972 F:0171 722 1267.

ST JOHNS WOOD NW8 Modern 3 double bed, duplex apart. Views from roof terrace over Regents Park. 3 baths. F/F kit. recep. TV. £360pw Alexanders 0171 402 0066

ST JOHNS WOOD/Maida Vale. Super luxury flat in p/b block. Rec, 3 beds, 2 baths. gge. £350pw. 0836 328961.

STUDIO. Fin. Cen. Of Portland St area. Ex cond £190pw f/let to Oct. Bucknips 0171 580 4829

SW1 3 bed 2 bath flat unfurn fit balconies, porter, security, underpinned pkg. 5 mins tube. £360pw excl. 071 630 9630.

SW6 2 dble bed Vic cottage, immac. f/f kit. lge bath. pwr shwr. patio gdn, cellar. nr tube & pkg. prof only, 1 yr let. no agents. £280pw. 071 731 6686

SW72 Immac, newly modernised, sgl 1 bed flat. £180pw. Tel 071 589 2071.

SWISS COTTAGE Superb flat dble bedrm, lge recep. Mod. CH £130 pw. 071 828 6177.

SW1 View river luxury 1 bed furnished apt. CH. £265pw. Phone 0171 589 7606.

WANDSWORTH COMMON Studio flat, all mod cons £145 pw Mr Walsh 0171 266 4746

W1 3 bed 2 bath dble recep. kitchen unfurn quiet part behind Oxford St. Excellent order.£360pw. 071 629 0765.

W1 1 bed fully furn, attractive flat, nr tube. GCH. pkg. £800pcm. 081 642 1843

W4/KEW BRIDGE Spacious 3 bed flat. Newly dec f/fitted K & B. Nr R Inn. Shell sharers £250pw. 0171 379 4816.

W1 Unfurn new 2 bed in new mod block lift exc kit £260pw. Also 1 bed flat at £270pw Globe Apts 0171 935 9612.

YOUNG PROFESSIONAL Belgian couple require a 1/2 bed flt in Fulham close to the District Line Underground & local shopping. The property must be avail for at least 2 yrs and with the rent not exceeding £300pw. 0171 381 8090.

SW6 2 dble bed Vic cottage, immac. f/f kit. lge bath. pwr shwr. patio gdn, cellar. nr tube & pkg. prof only, 1 yr let. no agents. £260pw. 071 731 6686

COMPANY & LUXURY LETS

LAWRENCE WHARF ROTHERHITHE
SE16 • TO LET
1,

Buyers are looking beyond the fine print to the fine detail of renovation and decor, reports **Claire Pilton**

Designed for living in

The 1980s trend of "dressing to sell" took a nosedive during the recession. But now the ready-to-move-into home is back, with a difference.

"All the frills and flounces have disappeared. The look is more relaxed, less obvious. Money is being spent on the fabric of the building as opposed to accessories," says Anthony Lassman, of Lassmans, who is selling a refurbished and stylish four-bedroom apartment in Eaton Square, London SW1.

The owner has spent "hundreds of thousands of pounds" on work which included restoring the original cornice in the drawing room, installing a pair of fireplaces in the interconnected drawing and dining rooms, a floodlit and landscaped balcony, a handcrafted kitchen with matt black stone worktops on platinum coloured wood, and proper marble slabs in the bathrooms. The style is classic, right down to the chrome crosshead taps and bevel-edged mirror.

"Nothing is gimmicky," says Elaine Lassman, of Lassman Interiors, who was responsible for the refurbishment and decoration of the walls, floors and windows. "Today's style is timeless, serene, calm and neutral. Over-decorating is out." This 20-year-lease apartment in Eaton Square is fluttering a suitably stylish £2 million price tag.

A similar scenario has occurred at No 1, The Little Boltons, London SW10, which was bought for £1.1 million when it was two rundown flats. Now restored as a single seven-bedroom residence, Paul Howe, of developers M. Bardiger Ltd, says they have spent "over £200,000 on the bits and pieces alone". The huge double drawing room is clad in cream and opens onto a west-facing and planted garden, while the dining-room is dressed for dinner at a cheap, chipboard table cleverly disguised with a linen pleated skirt and Nobby napkins featuring the No 1 logo from above the front door. The property is for sale on a 42-year lease through Chesterfields, for £3.25 million.

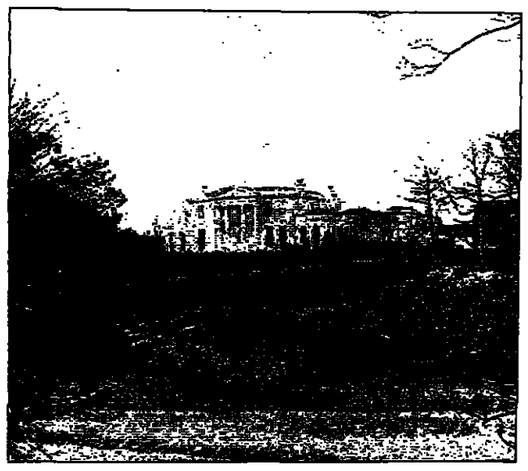
John Hunter, of Northacre, who made the headlines last year with the most successfully dressed-to-sell £9 million "semi" in Tregunter Road, London SW10, is now showing two very different flats at Observatory Gardens, W8. One is a traditionally presented four-bedroom, two-reception-room apartment with two terraces which is for sale as seen, excluding fine art and antiques, for £2.25 million; the other, which is ultra minimalist and intentionally shell-like, is on offer for £975,000. Light and spacious, it has three receptions, two bedroom suites and two terraces.

If you're not a developer, but are looking to sell your own home in the spring, what can you do to help give it that fresh, natural Nineties look? "If you have a solid background you can ring the changes with accessories. You'd be amazed how half-a-dozen different cushions, some new lamps and a rug can change the whole look of a place," says interior designer Joanna Wood, who made the country-house look her hallmark some ten years ago. She believes that there is still a place for that — albeit a defrilled and cleaned up version. It is a style she also favours in her own home, "because it suits my Georgian furniture, it's comfortable, and I don't want to go home and rearrange one orchid every night!"

Mrs Wood bought her three-bedroom house in Ranelagh Grove, London SW1, in 1993, but was aware "it would not be perfect for ever. Consequently I made sure that all the work I had done — and it was in a terrible state — was guaranteed and certificated. In the 1980s, a purchaser might have asked if there was any local building work scheduled to take place; today people are much fussier and surveys run into pages." The £625,000 asking price includes carpet and curtains, while the upholstery and soft furnishings are available by separate negotiation. Mrs Wood's house is for sale through Chesterfields on a 73-year lease.



The drawing room at Ranelagh Grove, London SW1: a property dressed to sell



One in £7 million: Guernsey's Havilland Hall estate

Ideally situated

***Alan Hamilton** finds a breathtaking Channel Island retreat*

To buy a 55-acre estate on the island of Guernsey is to acquire a significant slice of that tiny Channel Island tax haven. Anyone wishing to own an equivalent proportion of the land area of England would be looking at the entire county of Tyne and Wear.

On an island replete with millionaire *retreats, Havilland Hall is arguably the* most imposing — a white stuccoed, classically porticoed Regency villa of 1829 commanding views over its own rolling parkland. The £7 million being sought by agents Knight, Frank and Rutley is likely to set a record for a private house sale on the island.

And yes, it is *those* Havillands. The builder, Lt Col Thomas de Havilland of the Royal Engineers and a Guernseyman, was a direct ancestor of the actress sisters Olivia de Havilland and Joan Fontaine and of the pioneer planemaker Geoffrey de Havilland. The house was bought in the 1930s and lived in for some 40 years by Count Lothair Blucher, a descendant of the Prussian general.

When Raymond Slater, a Manchester property developer and former chairman of Norwest Holst, bought the house ten years ago it was the grounds that appealed. He keeps sheep to save himself thelabour of grass cutting, and allows farmers to use parts of the estate for pasture. "Now the family are grown up and gone, we want somewhere more modest," Mr Slater said.

Modest Havilland Hall is not, yet nor is it overbearingly grand. Its public rooms, carefully maintained and restored by the Slaters, are almost homely in an opulent sort of way, and if you feel too wide awake to retire to any of its six bedroom suites there are fine billiard and music rooms, a conservatory and extensive cellars.

Unlike the neighbouring tax haven of Jersey, which requires would-be escapees from the Inland Revenue to deposit a large sum in a local bank, Guernsey has no such restrictions, despite having an equally favourable tax regime. The smaller island controls immigration with a dual housing market, with a closed market for locals while outsiders are obliged to pay handsomely for houses on the open market register.

Havilland Hall is among the grandest properties on that register, yet such are the dimensions of Guernsey that it is ten minutes from the airport and just over a mile from the capital of St Peter Port.

French lesson for buyers

A course on the ups and downs of purchasing a property abroad

We have all heard disaster stories from people who have bought properties in France and found the experience fraught with worry, *Mary Wilson writes.*

There are excellent books to read on buying property abroad, but a better way may be to talk to people who have bought themselves. Lulie Webb, who bought her own property in France six years ago, started running weekend courses for overseas buyers at her Wiltshire home three years ago. "When we bought our property in the Loire, my husband, Adrian, knew France well and spoke good French. But we forgot that the French inheritance laws are very complicated. So we decided to sell the house to an SCI (Société Civile Immobilière), which is a property holding company in which all the family are shareholders. We can now gradually off-load shares to the children, who will end up owning the house in the most tax-efficient way," Mrs Webb says.

> It taught me what to expect, so it was very easy to buy

"If we had known what questions to ask before we had bought, we would have saved a lot of money. It should have cost about £800 to do this, but as we started after we had signed, it cost £5,000."

Their experience of buying abroad prompted the Webbs to set up a course to stop other people from making the same mistakes. "We try to impart as much information about the subject as we can. We emphasise the upside, but also the downside."

Susan Thompson, from Devon, went on one of Mrs Webb's courses before buying a barn in Brittany. "After my husband died three years ago, I was left with a small amount of money," Mrs Thompson says. "I wanted to do something with it, so I decided to buy a property in France." Her daughter had seen a suitable barn in Brittany.

"I reckoned it would go up in value and probably by more than the interest gained if the money was sitting in a bank." But before Mrs Thompson flew to France to see it, she went on one of Mrs Webb's weekend courses. "The tips were incredibly useful. One of the speakers, an estate agent, had a huge book of different properties and their prices. It gave me an excellent guideline to go on."

The first thing Mrs Thompson discovered was that the French have strict plumbing and electricity regulations. This was vital information, because she was planning to renovate the property. Now she has successfully bought her barn, using a French solicitor. "I knew from the course what to expect in the way of contracts and procedures, so it was very easy to buy," she says. "And because I knew about the regulations, I insisted that the plumbing and electricity work was checked by a French builder."

Derek and Jenny Henderson also went on one of Mrs Webb's courses. "It looked at general issues, such as healthcare, pensions and schools, and then brought in experts to discuss the process of buying a house, who to avoid and how to recognise people who are competent, which was very useful."

After the course, the Hendersons went to Gascony for a fortnight and, through what they had learnt, realised it was not the area for them. They eventually bought a property in the Dordogne.

● *Lulie and Adrian Webb's weekend courses cost from £150 per person residential to £125 for a non-resident. They are held about once a month and are restricted to a maximum of ten people. The next course is on March 17. Phone 01249 713179 for details.*

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QUALITY TO APPRECIATE

BAF enters national stadium debate

Report identifies host of problems at Crystal Palace

BY DAVID POWELL, ATHLETICS CORRESPONDENT

CRYSTAL Palace, where the World Cup was staged six months ago, may cease to be a leading venue for athletics in Great Britain if a consultative document published by the British Athletic Federation (BAF) yesterday is transformed into action. "Should not a start be made in exploring the development of an alternative London international venue?" the document asks.

Launching "Athletics 21", the BAF's strategic plan for the 21st century, Peter Radford, the executive chairman, said that he was certain that much contained in the document would come to fruition, in contrast to the Byers report of 1968 and the Paige report of 1988, which mainly gathered dust.

Among the urgent requirements, as defined by the document, are the provision of 25 sites for national coaching centres and a review of support facilities for regular cross-country and road-running venues. The document was described by Sally Gunnell, the Olympic champion and world record-holder in the 400 metres hurdles, as "a great step forward".

Other needs identified include a 10,000-plus seat stadium in the South Wales-South West region; two-lane synthetic training areas with jumping and throwing facilities to meet local requirements: improved indoor facilities, especially competition venues to complement those in Birmingham and Glasgow; and one "sprint shed", a training facility for sprinting and field events, for every 100,000 of the population.

On the future of Crystal Palace, the document says: "The sport is firmly committed to a policy of taking high level events around the United Kingdom. London must be one of the venues for these meetings. However, despite several determined efforts, the Crystal Palace venue presents grave difficulties in attracting future international support.

"Most, if not all, of the problems lie outside the 400 metres track and are not easily solvable. Transport links, geography, etc, do not look likely to be resolved in the medium future." Crystal Palace has hosted international athletics since 1964.

Today, the Sports Council



Radford: looking ahead

meets leading sports which have an interest in the building of a national stadium, of which athletics is one. Radford is anxious that Britain should be able to bid for world and European outdoor championships, and the document adds: "To enable this to happen, it will be necessary to enter, as a very active participant, in any future debate on the provision of a national stadium."

Radford stressed that the document is not rigid in its intentions, but a framework of ideas. All 1,700 athletics clubs in Britain will receive Radford's 60-page analysis, which has been reached after 230 interviews with representatives of the BAF, its member clubs, athletes, professional staff, sponsors and the media.

"We have been engaged for six to nine months in the largest consultative research exercise yet in British athletics," Radford said. He added that he would travel the country to discuss the strategy with the clubs and regions. "Then we will decide what methods to employ," Radford added.

Where would the money come from? "We are a sport which does not provide its own facilities," Radford said. "We will make sure we work through the [National] Lottery, the Sports Council and local authorities."

Radford highlighted five "threats" to the sport: the move towards professionalism: the role of commercialism; drugs; other leisure activities; and isolation/fragmentation. He said that professionalism puts at risk the enthusiasm of Britain's volunteer army. "There is a great deal of tension," he said.

Radford said that athlete contracts for international competitors were imminent and that a national registration scheme, an emotive issue among the rank and file, who are concerned that they would be subsidising the professionals, would be set up at no cost to club members. A voluntary membership scheme would be run in tandem as "a commercial exercise", Radford said.

Of further interest to the clubs is the decision by the men's British League to restructure its five divisions into four, each comprising eight teams, from 1996. A three-up, three-down system will replace the present two up, two down.



DES JENSON

Thompson takes up the attack for Cambridge during their victory at Old Deer Park, Richmond, yesterday

Cambridge celebrate lottery win

Cambridge University .. 16
Oxford University 8

BY CHRISTOPHER IRVINE

CAMBRIDGE, against the odds and on a pitch fit only for ducks, maintained their dominance of the University rugby league fixture at Old Deer Park yesterday to stretch their lead in the series to 8-6.

As a dress rehearsal for the Boat Race, conditions were splendid. Whether they were appropriate for a rugby match was another matter. Further question marks were raised after two periods of 20 minutes, with the teams at 8-8, when the referee decided on a further spell of ten minutes.

The words "lottery" and "farce" came to mind, but two Cambridge touchdowns, or splashdowns, in the third period condemned Oxford to the frustration that they have felt in the annual fixture since last winning, in 1992.

Adrian Spencer's odyssey from an appearance last December in the rugby union University match, to a subsequent 12 months' ban by the Rugby Football Union for having earlier played professional rugby league for London Crusaders — albeit unpaid — was completed by the Cambridge player-coach's third undefeated performance against Oxford (last year was an honourable draw).

"Conditions were, to say the least, very difficult, but it came down to a matter of heart and we had enough to win," Spencer said, shivering, before he was led, after the briefest of celebrations, to the warmth and sanctuary of the dressing room at the London Welsh club, which cannot have been best pleased at the match going ahead.

Of the circumstances surrounding his sin-binning for eight minutes for a dubious double offside offence in the 21st minute, Spencer was relieved as much as elated. Oxford, who deserved a draw for their efforts, used their numerical advantage to strike back immediately, with a fine try by Elliott.

Although favourites, on the basis of third place in the first division (south) of the student rugby league, whereas Cambridge are struggling against relegation, Oxford trailed early on as good support play by Gait. Spencer and Green put Morgan over. Spencer converted and added a subsequent goal.

Notwithstanding knock-ons by both sides, a try by the excellent Brennand on the Oxford right wing was allowed to stand. With Spencer on the sidelines, Cambridge struggled before Jones and Holmes both found a less saturated part of the pitch on the left to score the decisive tries.

SCORERS: Oxford University: Tries: Brennand, Elliott. Cambridge University: Tries: Morgan, Jones, Holmes. Goals: Davies (2).

OXFORD UNIVERSITY: N Viney (Gresham's and Pembroke); J Brennand (Merchant Taylors', Crosby and St Anne's), J O'Riordan (OEGS, Blackburn and St Peter's), R Elliott (Ampleforth and Wadham), J Hull (Bolton and Queen's); J Davies (Ysgol Gyfun and Mansfield), J Walker (Oundle and Worcester, captain); E Wiseman (Perse and Worcester), O Bryant (Bromsgrove and New College), C Champion (Arnold and Queen's), M Crabbe (Oundle and Pembroke), P Harrison (Radley and New College), J Bailey (Godalming Vth Form College and Brasenose). Substitutes used: S Ferguson (Nottingham HS and Mansfield), E Meredien (St Benedict's, Ealing and Hertford), R Underhill (Lutterworth GS and Mansfield), M Brunning (Leicester GS and Worcester)

CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY: M Davies (Scots College and Trinity Hall); M Holmes (Magdalen CS and Peterhouse), W Thompson (Arnold and Magdalene), S Young (Canford and Pembroke), J Rutter (Ousle-hurst and Sidcup GS and St John's); A Spencer (Priestley Vth Form College and St John's), D Green (New College, Pontefract and St Catherine's); F MacMillan (Bristol CS and Homerton), D Gait (Leeds GS and Caius), D Somers (Tiffin and Caius, captain), N Spence (Reigate GS and St John's), A Harris (Sherborne and Emmanuel), A Morgan (St Bartholomew's and Jesus). Substitutes used: M Curry (St Paul's and Jesus), G Fury (St John's College, Johannesburg and Hughes Hall), E Harrison (Rugby and St John's), H Jonas (Shuttleworth College and Caius).

Referee: A Smith (London)

Photograph, page 1

Doncaster live on through merger agreement

BY CHRISTOPHER IRVINE

DONCASTER rugby league club has agreed a merger with Sheffield Eagles, its South Yorkshire neighbours, in a move which prolongs the future of the game in the town. Administrators called in by the struggling first division outfit, which has debts estimated at £1.4 million, said that Doncaster would fulfil their fixtures this season. The clubs will then merge in the summer and play under a new name, which is yet to be decided.

Matches will be played in both Sheffield, at Don Valley Stadium, and Doncaster's Tattersfield ground. Gary Hetherington, the Sheffield Eagles manager, said that the team, with expanded support, was aiming for "a top-four place in the next three years".

The decision by Frano Botica to reject a full-time move to Auckland Warriors, in preference to seeing out a prodigious points-scoring career with Wigan, has blocked one path of Neil Jenkins, the Wales rugby union stand-off half, into rugby league.

Others may well show interest, however, so strong had the reports been that Jenkins would join Wigan before the rugby union World Cup in South Africa this summer.

It was always the case, though, that if Wigan could dissuade Botica from moving to Auckland for two years, an option on the Pontypridd player would not be taken up. When Wigan denied suggestions on Monday that Jenkins would sign this week, it was in the knowledge that Botica, 31, had committed himself for next season, with a further 12-month option.

Botica, a former All Black who operated in rugby union in the shadow of Grant Fox, has landed 787 goals in 167 games since signing for Wigan in May 1990.

In Auckland, John Kirwan, a former union colleague of Botica and New Zealand's record international try scorer, said yesterday that he had signed a two-year contract with Warriors, after turning them down last November.

London Broncos yesterday denied reports appearing in Australia that financial backing from Brisbane Broncos, their owners, was on the point of being withdrawn. Robbie Moore, the chief executive of the club, said that their future was guaranteed until the end of the season.

SURREY

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SHEEHAN on BRIDGE

Dealer South — Love all

	♠QJ763 ♥A543 ♦2 ♣QJ8		
♠854 ♥972 ♦Q98865 ♣73			♠A109 ♥Q86 ♦AJ7 ♣9642
	♠K9 ♥KJ10 ♦K1043 ♣AK105		

S	W	N	E
1♠	Pass	1♠	Pass
2NT	Pass	3♣	Pass
3NT	All Pass		

Contract: 3NT by South. Lead: Six of diamonds

BY ROBERT SHEEHAN
BRIDGE CORRESPONDENT

Against South's 3NT, West led the six of diamonds to East's ace and East continued with the diamond jack. South had a tricky decision to make. Who had the ace of spades? If it was West, South would be right to win the king of diamonds immediately because, when West got the lead, he would not be able to cash out the diamond suit. If, on the other hand, the ace of spades was with East, declarer would be right to duck this diamond lead and win the next.

In the event, South decided to play for "split aces", i.e. to play West for the ace of spades because East had already turned up with the ace of diamonds — a popular though not very scientific theory. So, after winning the jack of diamonds with the king, he could afford to lose the lead to West but not to East. This gave him a small extra chance.

Rather than play a spade immediately, declarer crossed to dummy's jack of clubs and played a heart to his ten. If it lost to West, there was no danger (unless East had the ace of spades, when declarer was not expecting to make his contract in any case). As it turned out, the ten of hearts held, so declarer cashed the king of hearts and played a heart to the ace. When the suit broke 3-3, he had made his contract without needing a spade trick.

☐ The English Bridge Union's Grand Master's Pairs was played in Coventry over the weekend. It was been won by I R Lancaster and G J Allan; second were A J Waterlow and J P Sadler; third were D W Stevenson and D A L Burn.

WORD-WATCHING

By Philip Howard

ANFRACTUOUS
a. Circuitous
b. Argumentative
c. Inaccurate

NYCTITROPIC
a. Sun-burnt
b. Below the Equator
c. Turning at night

QUAGGLE
a. A type of antelope
b. A card game
c. A quivering and quaking

HERDWICK
a. A pasture
b. To spy upon or trail
c. A type of loose lace

KEENE on CHESS

BY RAYMOND KEENE
CHESS CORRESPONDENT

Short loses

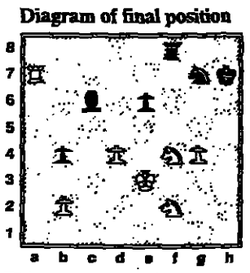
Nigel Short had the misfortune to face Anatoly Karpov at his best in the fifth round of the international tournament at Linares, Spain. The python-like strangulation technique at which Karpov excels finally squeezed the life out of Short's position and he resigned on move 52. Veselin Topalov, the Bulgarian grandmaster, leads the tournament with four wins out of five.

White: Anatoly Karpov
Black: Nigel Short
Linares, March 1995

Queen's Gambit Accepted

1	d4	d5
2	c4	dxc4
3	Nf3	a6
4	e3	Nf6
5	Bxc4	e6
6	0-0	c5
7	Bd3	cxd4
8	exd4	Be7
9	Nc3	b5
10	e4	b4
11	Ne4	Bb7
12	Qe2	0-0
13	Rd1	Nbd7
14	Ned2	a5
15	Bb5	Nb6
16	Nb3	Bd5
17	Nc5	Nbd7
18	Be3	Ra7
19	Ne5	Nb8
20	Bf4	Ne8
21	Rd3	Bg5
22	Bxg5	Qxg5
23	Rg3	Qe7
24	Qh5	f5
25	Rh3	Nf6
26	Qh4	g6
27	Re3	Rd8
28	f3	Rc7
29	Rae1	Nh5
30	Qxe7	Rxe7
31	Kf2	Ng7
32	g4	Rc7
33	Rc1	g5
34	Ree1	h5
35	h3	hxg4
36	fxg4	Rf8+
37	Ke3	Rf4
38	Rf1	Rxf1
39	Rxf1	Nc5
40	Bxc6	Bxc6
41	Rf6	hxg4
42	hxg4	Bd5
43	Rg6	Rc8
44	Rxg5	Rf8
45	Ncd3	Kh7
46	Nf4	Bb3
47	Nd7	Rf7
48	Nc5	Bd1
49	Ne4	Rf8
50	Nf2	Bxa4
51	Rxa5	Bc6
52	Ra7	Black resigns

Diagram of final position



This was one of Karpov's classic games.

Charity Chess

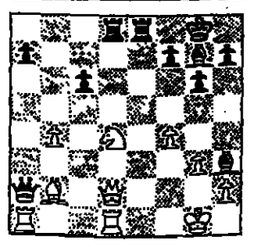
The charity exhibition in aid of Save the Children, held at the Royal Automobile Club over the weekend, saw 11 British champions play 400 games against 100 different opponents. It is expected that more than £5,000 will be raised.

WINNING MOVE

By Raymond Keene

This position is from the game Ilincic — Makarov, Arandelovac 1993. Black has caught White in a crossfire of pins. How did he now make the most of this?

Solution: page 44



هكذا من الأصل

Cricket coffers bulge but stalwarts are rewarded in Victorian fashion

Rich get richer and poor get jittery

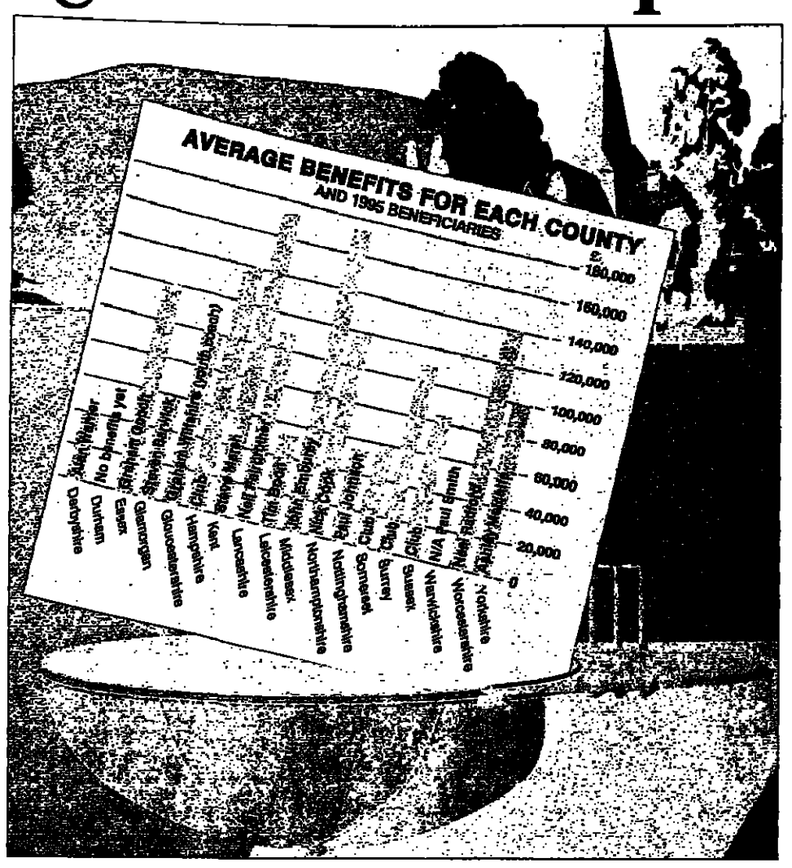
Andrew Longmore examines the anachronisms of the benefit system

Graham Gooch took time off in Adelaide during the England cricket tour of Australia to attend an official function. Not Gooch's sort of thing, really. Suit and tie, tickets at Aus$100 a head, speeches, but he had to go. It was a dinner to launch his own benefit year. A few thousand miles away, in temperatures several degrees lower, Allan Warner began his benefit year in more modest surroundings with a £20-a-head dinner at the County Ground. With luck and a good season, Gooch might make £200,000 out of his second benefit at Essex. Warner £40,000 from the much smaller cricketing populace of Derbyshire.

Benefits are as old as the game itself, and, even in Victorian days, some did better than others. W. G. Grace pocketed a startling £9,000 from his second testimonial; Bobby Abel, the Surrey opener, gleaned £730 from the Surrey v Yorkshire match 100 years ago. Over the past decade, though, benefits have become big business, no longer the cricketing equivalent of a handshake and a carriage clock. Their role will undoubtedly be discussed as the counties consider claims for a £20,000 minimum wage by the Cricketers' Association at the spring meeting of the Test and County Cricket Board (TCCB), which continues today at Lord's.

Richard Ellison made £200,000 at Kent, Mike Gatting a similar sum from Middlesex, and the TCCB is waiting anxiously for news of Alec Stewart's benefit last year, which could break all the records. Benefits have never been subject to tax, but each bumper pay-day weakens the case for exemption, and second benefits for Gooch and John Emburey, the Middlesex beneficiary this year, will do little to ease the delicate relationship between the TCCB and the Inland Revenue.

The lot of the professional cricketer has improved considerably over the past ten years. A recent survey showed that 69 per cent of county professionals earn more than £20,000 for a six-month season — plus expenses, sponsored car, private health and retirement schemes and any prize-money — but careers can be short and uncertain. The benefit is vital to a player's future. It is a reward for loyalty, which gives supporters a chance to thank a player, and the player, in the words of Ron Nicholls, the old Gloucestershire batsman, to buy a "decent semi in Cheltenham".




Gooch: global approach


Warner: modest appeal

For the counties, it discourages a football-style transfer market. The danger is that a system designed to help the unsung county stalwart is becoming a gravy train for the well-paid international. Even those who favour the system appreciate its feudalism and inherent injustice.

"Benefits are glorified cap-in-hand, and anyone who thinks otherwise is sadly wrong," David Graveney, the first full-time general secretary of the Cricketers' Association, said. "Yes, it's the one chance for a player to make some money from the game, but it's a sad sort of business, ending a dignified career by passing round the cap. There has to be a better way to resolve it." Like establishing a proper pension scheme and a sounder wage structure so that players do not have to rely on arbitrary largesse for their security. The excuses for not doing so weaken with every extra pound of income from television and sponsors.

Most players, while privately disliking the endless round of dinners, dances and race nights, are just grateful for what they can get. Some are better at coping with it than others. "I've had sleepless nights, just worrying about how much work there is to do," Warner said. At Gloucestershire, Andy Brassington, who spent much of his career as second-string wicketkeeper, showed what good organisation and an outgoing personality can do by earning a county record £125,000. Not surprisingly, he is now the county's marketing director. Jack Russell, no less dedicated a servant of the county but more introverted, might make half that amount from his low-key benefit last year.

> 'Over the past decade, benefits have become big business'

"More sensitive players can feel very embarrassed by the whole business," Philip August, the Gloucestershire secretary, said. "It doesn't seem fair sometimes, but it has proved a good way of rewarding long-serving players."

Though counties are not allowed to promise players a benefit by contract, benefits are usually awarded after ten years at a county. This, too, leads to complications, encouraging some counties to keep players beyond their useful life and causing bitterness if, like Neil Burns at Somerset, a player is released just before a benefit is due.

"It can lead to inertia, with players hanging on just to get a benefit when maybe they should retire or go to another county," Steve Coverdale, the chief executive of Northamptonshire, said. "Equally, if you get rid of a player, the other players get upset, the press gets onto you and it can be a problem."

Every year, as restrictions on activities get tighter, the TCCB issues guidelines to beneficiaries about what they can and cannot do. A player, for example, cannot earn money directly for his benefit fund. He can go along to a dinner, make a speech, say "thank you", tell a funny story and say what a splendid fellow he is, but it is up to the guests whether they want to contribute. Everything has to be seen to be a donation. Nobody can be paid, nor can the county help to organise a benefit. So success or failure depends largely on who can be press-ganged onto the benefit committee. The international players, with their network of contacts, have an advantage.

Bob Wilson, a semi-retired financier who is the chairman of Neil Fairbrother's 22-strong benefit committee, calls himself a "persuader". "It helps if the player is as popular as Neil, because people want to put themselves out, but it's a big responsibility," he said. "This is a way of giving him a start, but I also think it's a chance to teach him something about the outside world. Most cricketers know nothing outside cricket."

A murder night at Old Trafford, a golf week in Orlando with Michael Atherton and a greyhound night at Belle Vue are among the 40 events advertised in a luxurious 136-page benefit brochure. Whether Fairbrother will have time to concentrate on his cricket is a more delicate matter. By tradition, benefit seasons are not the most productive. Last year, Ole Mortensen, the Derbyshire beneficiary, bowled just 27 overs in between circulating the county ground with a Viking helmet on his head and a bucket in his hand.

Yet, for all the quaint anachronisms of the benefit system, the authorities are rightly loath to tamper with it until some equally lucrative alternative is in place. On the whole, neither the TCCB nor the counties want to know. Essex have established a central fund, which operates whenever there is no individual beneficiary, so that a player like Don Topley, released before his benefit year, gets some compensation. However, individuals invariably raise more money than counties. Northamptonshire's Target 2000 fund-raising drive fell short of its target of £130,000 over three years, while Allan Lamb made the same sum in 12 months. Graveney believes that limiting activites would help to equalise the uncomfortable differentials between the Gooches and the Warners. By then, the taxman might have offered his own solution.

Forrest offers the ultimate useless sacrifice

Anyone who thought that Andy Cole was the hero of the week was very badly wrong. The real hero was, of course, Craig Forrest. Forrest was the goalkeeper: Andy Cole put five goals past him as Manchester United won 9-0.

Quite a lot of goals for a hero to concede, I agree, but the moment of significance came late in the game. Forrest, determined to keep the score down to a respectable 7-0, dashed off his line and handled the ball outide his area. He was booked for his pains and, while he was being booked, Paul Ince scored United's eighth.

You can explain this as man clinging to the rags of pride, of professionalism, but to get booked in a match already lost is not the long-term thinking of a professional.

Nor was this the mad belief in the impossible, something that can sweep through a side at inspired moments ("we can still win this one, lads"). Eric Elwood, roaring back to his team after kicking a monstrous conversion in the Ireland v France rugby union match, epitomised the all-is-not-lost spirit that can create the odd miracle, though not on Saturday.

The point about Forrest's mad charge and booking is that all *was* lost. With the best will in the world, there is no way a side can pull back a seven-goal deficit in 15 minutes. Victory was gone — and so was respectability and pride. This was the mother of all thrashings.

Heroism in the face of difficulty is rare. Heroism in the face of total rout is rarer still — and, of course, completely and utterly useless, certainly so far as the winning and the losing is concerned.

In 1976, the West Indian cricketers were playing MCC. After scoring a modest 251 for nine declared, they enlivened the last half-hour by bowling at the speed of light. Dennis Amiss was struck on the head and, in those pre-helmet days, had to retire. Phil Carrick, an unexpected choice for night-watchman, came out with five minutes to play.

As he took his stance on a crease splashed with Amiss's blood, Mike Brearley, batting at the opposite end, approached him for a word. Brearley said to him: "The time has come, Perkins, for an absolutely useless sacrifice."

Carrick, Brearley reports back, was unamused, perhaps failing to spot the line from *Beyond the Fringe*. All the same, he hung on for those 20 minutes, so he must count as the first fully-documented exponent of the Perkins Principle.

Other examples are hard to find. We can all think of dozens of people whose heroics have turned a match that looked as good as lost, but that is a different matter altogether. Botham's famous let's-give-it-some-humpty innings of 1981 was not on the Perkins Principle. It was more along the lines of going down with a bit of flourish. The Perkins Principle is characterisd by strife and struggle — and all of it completely useless.

Andre Agassi is another non-Perkins. True, he put his run to the Wimbledon championship together from what looked at the time like certain defeat by Boris Becker; but he turned the match around, not by Perkins-esque strife, but by showboating.

There is, I think, only one real candidate for being the great Perkins of history, the archetypal Perkin, Perkins in apotheosis. That is David Steele, the bespectacled batsman who was called from obscurity to face Dennis Lillee and Jeff Thomson.

These two men were in the process of changing forever the face of cricket. Physical courage had never been so important a part of cricket, perhaps never will again. England's answer was to laugh at the very idea of wearing helmets to bat in — and to produce a man in glasses.

Unforgettably described as The Bank Clerk Goes to War, Steele did his stuff with considerable courage. All of it, of course, absolutely useless. England got stuffed out of sight. Naturally, when easier opponents took their place, Steele was no longer required. The absolutely useless sacrifice had been made.

The Perkins Principle is a form of absolute perfection. It is the purest form of sporting courage, because it demands nothing back, certainly not victory. It is absolutely pure and therefore extraordinarily rare. Most people will incline to the opposite principle. This was expounded by Spike Milligan and quoted to me once by David Gower, recalling the two Blackwash series of 5-0 defeats by West Indies.

The boy stood on the burning deck.
Twit.

MIDWEEK VIEW



SIMON BARNES

Cronje leads way for South Africa

GARY KIRSTEN, Andrew Hudson and Hansie Cronje put South Africa into a strong position with some fine batting against New Zealand on the fourth day of their Test in Auckland yesterday. South Africa were 232 for four, with a lead of 198, at the close.

Cronje, the captain, was not out on 58, having contributed 76 with Kirsten and 64 with Hudson.

There was a hint of possible controversy when television cameras focused on Dion Nash, the seam bowler, attending to the ball. Bob Woolmer, the South Africa coach, said that he had spoken to Barry Jarman, the match referee, about a minor matter, but he refused to discuss it. Under International Cricket Council rules, Jarman cannot comment until after the match.

Cronje was in belligerent mood with the bat, hitting three sixes and four fours in his fourth Test fifty. He savaged the slow bowlers, hitting Dipak Patel for two sixes over mid-wicket and driving Matthew Hart over mid-off for the same result.

Hudson scored eight fours in his tenth Test fifty. With Cronje, he put on 83 runs to restore some order to the innings, which had been teetering at 140 for three at tea.

Kirsten fell for 76 with the score at 123, when Nash induced him into hooking. The ball went off his gloves to Adam Parore, the wicketkeeper. Kirsten became the latest player to throw away the chance of a hundred on the docile pitch. Cullinan made 96 in the South Africa first innings, while Young, with 74, and Parore, out for 89, failed to complete centuries for New Zealand.

New Zealand were earlier dismissed for 328, South Africa taking 33 minutes to remove the last three first-innings wickets for 12 runs.

Scoreboard, page 44

THE TIMES COURAGE FIRST XV

COURAGE BEST WEEKLY SCORE

This week's winner, with a comparatively low score of 452 rated points, is Mr D White of Little Rissington, Gloucestershire, whose success is due largely to his selection of three of the five players who scored 100 or more rated points this week.

Mr White wins two cases of Courage Best and a fully-installed BT satellite system. His nominated club is Stow-on-the-Wold, who win five cases of Courage beer, a Courage Best England shirt and a ball signed by the England team. With just five league fixtures remaining, Mr Steve Blake increased his slight lead over Mrs P Saverimutto and P Gorring to retain first place in the main competition, although with only 500 points separating the top eight he cannot yet bank on the £10,000 prize.

Even closer is the competition covering the second half of the season, in which Mrs E Howard has seen her lead cut to a mere 22 points.

THE LEADING 50 ENTRIES OVERALL

Pos	Team name	(Selector)	Week points	Cum points
1	Who Ate The Pies	Mr Steve Blake	57	4624
2	Savvy Superstars	Mrs P Saverimutto	0	4324
3	Toppers X V	P Gorring	121	4264
4	Anns Fidalls	Maj A McCubbin	12	4159
5	Fish City XV	Mr P Hyland	95	4099
6	Newky Gnomes	RW Eales	0	4074
7	Gosforth To Go U	Mr I Sedd	0	4074
8	Messers Marauder	Mr Tim Messer	267	4042
9	Baby In Waiting	Mr Gary Pierce	166	4006
10	Wabe's Wanderers	Mr MC Wabe	125	3946
11	Crash Ball Viper	Mr D Edwards	12	3896
12	Blue And Whites	Mr D Brook	300	3873
13	Mels Flying XV	Mr M Horton	85	3869
14	The Welsh Exiles	Mr E G Shedfward	95	3819
15	The Old Town Clu	Mr A Sykes	0	3818
16	Linden	Mr A Newbold	0	3816
17	No team name	Mr D MacNally	116	3796
18	Welham Fifteen	Mr Simon Stone	250	3785
19	Kirsty's Dream	Ms M Carter	12	3759
20	Pendeen	Mr JTO Jones	82	3757
21	The Random Punte	Miss LM Dawson	180	3725
22	Storming Norms	Mr Duncan Cross	107	3712
23	Grimeys Gritters	Mr G Neal	77	3702
24	Elan's Giants	Mr Patrick Armitage	0	3691
25	No team name		0	3689
26	The Fat Boys	D Spencer	70	1397
27	Sealach Sports	RH Scriven	85	1389
28	Savvy Superstars	Mr JLR Saverimutto	0	1369
29	Priorstown	Mr DJ Mason	145	1367
30	Hutchshire 2nd X	D Hutcheson	250	1363
31	Maniacs II	Mr MJ Stoner	165	1352
32	Metacarpellans	Mr A MacKin	146	1349
33	The Profiteers	A Cashmore	21	1339
34	Whitwell	C Richards	110	1334
35	Kings Head Babas	Mr JP O'Mahoney	12	1328
36	Deglocks	Mr Peter Smith	70	1322
37	Armies Aces	Ms Ruth Wilkinson	0	1313
38	Sidney's Select	Mr G Pennock	70	1307
39	Chocoholics	J Cawthorne	85	1304
40	Bucks Zimbabwean	N McHale	12	1295

THE LEADING 30 FOR THE SECOND HALF OF THE SEASON

1	Whist	Mrs E Howard	2021
2	Hunbup Players	Mr Mick Nicholas	1898
3	Barnes NotAndrew	Mr Steve Smith	1892
4	Fluffy 15	Mr Richard Horner	1718
5	More Jones Boys	ML Jones	1589
6	Highbury Casuals	CJ Ormondy	1550
7	Morganbeasers	ML Jones	1546
8	Staves 2nd 15	Mr S Cawley	1519
9	Telnial	Mr T Kennedy	1497
10	Ty Coch Devils	EG Shepherd	1482
11	Cherage	Mr A Stillow	1479
12	The Army 3	Mr A Charles	1420
13	No team name	Mrs CAV Sharman	1404
14	No team name	Mr David Nelson	1402
15	Wycombe Wobblers	Mr Ian Horn	1401

NOTES:

1. The 15 new players with code numbers of 301 and above are in the second-half game only.
2. The scores from any matches postponed during this part of the season will count in the table published on the first Wednesday after they are eventually played. The weekly prize will therefore be awarded on the basis of the scores printed in each weekly points table.
3. Any queries relating to any aspect of The Times Courage First XV should be addressed to the organisers at PO Box 600, Luton, LU2 0NZ, phone 0582-457444

THE SCORES FROM LAST SATURDAY'S LEAGUE GAMES AND CUMULATIVE POINTS TOTALS

PLAYER	RATING	ACTUAL PTS	RATED PTS	CUM PTS	CUM PTS 2ND HALF
15. FULL BACK					
LEAGUE 1					
1 J CALLARD	2K	19	38	232	92
2 P HULL	11	0	0	55	0
3 M MAPLETOFT	4K	0	0	340	96
4 D PEARS	15	0	0	0	0
5 W KILFORD	17	0	0	85	85
6 I HUNTER	13	5	65	130	65
7 S TABERNER	12	0	0	0	0
8 J MALLINDER	13	0	0	234	65
9 A BUZZA	17	0	0	0	0
10 K OLIPHANT	6K	0	0	312	0
LEAGUE 2					
11 R GEE	15	0	0	0	0
12 A PARKER	5K	7	35	420	80
13 R HENNESSY	19	0	0	285	0
14 D MILLARD	15	0	0	240	0
15 C DOSSETT	17	0	0	85	0
16 S MASON	6K	0	0	504	198
17 M GALLAGHER	7K	0	0	574	140
18 A TUNNICLIFF	4K	13	52	504	104
19 M JACKSON	8K	17	85	730	255
20 S SWINDELLS	4K	11	44	456	104
14. RIGHT WING					
21 A SWIFT	10	0	0	200	50
22 D JOHN	12	0	0	80	0
23 P HOLFORD	14	5	70	350	70
24 J KEYTER	16	0	0	80	0
25 T UNDERWOOD	10	0	0	150	0
26 H THORNEYCROFT	15	5	75	75	75
27 J NAYLOR	12	0	0	120	60
28 S VERSICKAS	7	0	0	105	0
29 P HOPLEY	11	0	0	165	55
30 O EVANS	12	0	0	80	0
31 B EVANS	14	0	0	0	0
32 B MANAVAN	9K	5	45	180	45
33 M CORCORAN	6K	2	12	702	12
34 T WATSON	10	0	0	0	0
35 D HANSON	12	0	0	0	0
36 D CASADO	13	0	0	55	0
37 R BYRON	14	0	0	0	0
38 M KEMP	16	0	0	0	0
39 K MORLEY	13	0	0	195	0
40 G MEREDITH	14	0	0	0	0
301 S BARDEN	13	0	0	0	0
302 D PAYNE	12	0	0	0	0
13. OUTSIDE CENTRE					
41 P DE OLIVEIRA	13	0	0	130	0
42 A SAVERIMUTTO	8	0	0	0	0
43 S MASLEN	17	0	0	0	0
44 G THOMPSON	18	0	0	240	0
45 I BATES	17	0	0	0	0
46 K MORGAN	18	0	0	0	0
47 S LANGFORD	7K	3	21	511	224
48 J BAXENDELL	17	0	0	255	85
49 D HOPLEY	14	0	0	420	0
50 A ELWINE	22	0	0	220	110
303 D EDWARDS	17	0	0	0	0
51 N CURTIS	13	0	0	0	0
52 P SEED	19	0	0	0	0
53 R HENDERSON	19	0	0	570	95
54 M SILY	22	0	0	0	0
55 J BONNEY	29	0	0	0	0
56 R WILKINSON	13	0	0	260	0
57 A FURLEY	22	0	0	330	0
58 J BUCKTON	16	0	0	270	90
59 A METCALFE	22	0	0	110	0
60 A NORTHEY	23	0	0	115	0
12. INSIDE CENTRE					
61 J GUSCOTT	10	0	0	0	0
62 R KNIBBS	13	0	0	0	0
63 S MORRIS	18	0	0	360	0
64 W CARLING	12	0	0	60	0
65 S POTTER	13	0	0	0	0
66 N BEAL	8	0	0	0	0
67 I WYNN	14	5	70	350	70
68 G STOCKS	17	0	0	340	170
69 G CHILDS	16	0	0	320	80
70 P HODDER	15	0	0	375	75
71 M LAKEY	12	0	0	132	0
72 S GOUGH	17	0	0	255	170
73 S BURNS	14	0	0	0	0
74 R ERIKSSON	15	0	0	195	0
75 A KERR	7K	0	0	196	112
76 M TETLOW	20	0	0	100	100
77 S MUSTO	31	0	0	155	0
78 S RAVENSCROFT	19	0	0	0	0
79 P WHITE	25	5	100	200	200
80 A HANDLEY	13	0	0	0	0
11. LEFT WING					
81 S GEOGHEGAN	10	0	0	150	100
82 S CROSSLAND	12	0	0	0	0
83 T SMITH	5K	0	0	75	0
84 D O'LEARY	7	0	0	35	0
85 R UNDERWOOD	11	10	110	110	110
86 C MOIR	14	0	0	0	0
87 P HAMER	13	0	0	195	104
88 M APPLETON	18	0	0	180	0
89 S HUNTER	14	0	0	140	0
90 D COOKE	14	0	0	70	0
91 D WOODMAN	11	0	0	0	0
92 G ANDERTON	16	5	75	225	75
93 V ROLANDI	12	0	0	0	0
94 S WICHARY	9	0	0	171	0
95 E ANDERSON	14	0	0	140	140
96 T PENN	12	0	0	300	120
97 A SMALLWOOD	9	5	45	90	45
98 P HARRIES	12	0	0	300	80
99 R THOMPSON	13	0	0	260	65
100 S GREENHALGH	16	0	0	80	80
304 S POWIS	14	0	0	0	0
305 N ROBINSON	14	0	0	0	0
10. STAND OFF					
101 M CATT	18	0	0	250	0
102 M TAINTON	2K	8	16	208	92
103 L OSBORNE	16	8	80	210	170
104 P CHALLINOR	7K	8	21	546	189
105 J HARRIS	2K	0	0	286	84
106 P GRAYSON	2K	4	12	405	21
107 G ASHCROFT	6K	0	0	66	0
108 P TURNER	3K	3	9	251	78
109 R ANDREW	2K	8	12	222	24
110 J STABLER	2K	0	0	80	0
111 R ANGELL	8K	0	0	375	75
112 I BARCLAY	17	3	85	408	85
113 D COBBE	22	0	0	572	506
114 M WALKER	5K	0	0	370	75
115 S HODGKINSON	5K	0	0	495	45
116 I CHANDLER	9K	0	0	45	0
117 N CARROLL	12	0	0	36	36
118 A LEE	13	0	0	299	0
119 R PETYT	10	0	0	80	0
120 N RYAN	24	0	0	720	264
9. SCRUM HALF					
121 I SANDERS	16	0	0	80	0
122 K BRACKEN	13	0	0	0	0
123 B FENLEY	15	0	0	0	0
124 R KITCHIN	16	0	0	0	0
125 A KARDOORN	19	0	0	95	0
126 M DAWSON	16	5	80	160	80
127 D MORRIS	12	8	0	120	60
128 C SAVERIMUTTO	22	0	0	0	0
129 S BATES	18	0	0	90	90
130 J WRIGLEY	14	0	0	0	0
131 M DOUGLAS	22	0	0	330	0
132 C O'TOOLE	23	0	0	115	0
133 R SAUNDERS	19	0	0	95	0
134 K TROUP	28	0	0	420	0
135 G REDCONBALL	20	0	0	0	0
136 S DOUGLAS	14	0	0	140	140
137 A ROYER	24	0	0	0	0
138 B DAVIES	18	0	0	0	0
139 D SCULLY	18	0	0	126	0
140 S WRIGHT	26	5	125	378	250
1. LOOSE HEAD PROP					
141 D HILTON	33	0	0	0	0
142 A SHARP	41	0	0	0	0
143 A WINDO	30	0	0	0	0
144 J LEONARD	35	0	0	0	0
145 G ROWNTREE	37	0	0	0	0
146 M HYNES	40	0	0	0	0
147 P WINSTANLEY	38	0	0	114	0
148 P SMITH	45	0	0	0	0
149 G HOLMES	37	0	0	0	0
150 P LANCASTER	44	0	0	0	0
151 G TREGILGAS	48	0	0	0	0
152 C BURNS	44	0	0	0	0
153 N DONOVAN	23	0	0	0	0
154 A STEWART	45	0	0	0	0
155 M LINNETT	36	0	0	150	0
156 M FRASER	29	0	0	0	0
157 M FREER	45	0	0	0	0
158 R ANDREWS	37	0	0	0	0
159 R SZABO	36	0	0	0	0
160 S PETERS	39	0	0	0	0
306 F WISEMAN	44	0	0	0	0
307 R FULLER	36	0	0	0	0
2. HOOKERS					
161 G DAWE	34	0	0	0	0
162 M REGAN	40	0	0	280	0
163 D KEARSEY	38	0	0	0	0
164 S MOORE	35	0	0	175	0
165 R COCKERILL	33	0	0	0	0
166 A CLARKE	43	0	0	0	0
167 T RICHMOND	37	0	0	0	0
168 S DIAMOND	33	0	0	0	0
169 K DUNN	35	0	0	0	0
170 S MITCHELL	31	0	0	0	0
171 D ADDLETON	45	0	0	0	0
172 A MOFFAT	47	0	0	0	0
173 R KELLAM	38	0	0	0	0
174 L MAIR	39	0	0	0	0
175 D BALL	36	0	0	0	0
176 A HETHERINGTON	33	8	8	465	330
177 D WEST	28	0	0	280	140
178 G BOTTERMAN	41	0	0	0	0
179 T GARNETT	37	0	0	185	8
180 M HAYTON	46	0	0	0	0
308 M DIXON	35	0	0	0	0
3. TIGHT HEAD PROP					
181 V UBOGU	25	0	0	0	0
182 D HINKINS	41	0	0	0	0
183 A DEACON	32	0	0	0	0
184 A MULLINS	39	0	0	0	0
185 D GARFORTH	36	0	0	0	0
186 C ALLEN	40	0	0	0	0
187 J CUNDICK	44	0	0	0	0
188 A SMITH	40	0	0	0	0
189 I DUNSTAN	37	0	0	185	0
190 D RUSBY	46	0	0	0	0
191 R HARDWICK	39	0	0	0	0
192 S RIGBY	35	0	0	0	0
193 G HALPIN	36	0	0	0	198
194 P BURNELL	42	0	0	0	0
195 N WEBBER	45	0	0	0	0
196 P VANZANDVLIET	32	0	0	320	160
197 A JACKSON	36	0	0	0	0
198 S WILSON	35	0	0	190	190
199 S MCMAIN	39	0	0	0	0
200 M BECKETT	38	0	0	0	0
4. LOCK RH					
201 N REDMAN	30	0	0	0	0
202 S SHAW	37	0	0	0	0
203 R WEST	41	0	0	0	0
204 A SNOW	30	0	0	0	0
205 M JOHNSON	32	0	0	288	0
206 N EDWARDS	36	0	0	0	0
207 C COOPER	37	0	0	0	0
208 D BALDWIN	31	0	0	155	0
209 R KINSEY	35	0	0	175	0
210 J DIXON	34	0	0	0	0
211 J HYDE	45	0	0	0	0
212 P O'NEIL	46	0	0	0	0
213 C HALL	42	0	0	0	0
214 A NESBIT	40	0	0	0	0
215 G WATSON	35	0	0	0	0
216 J FOWLER	40	0	0	0	0
217 D HINDMARCH	46	0	0	0	0
218 M LANGLEY	43	0	0	0	0
219 S CROFT	40	0	0	0	0
220 P WHITE	48	0	0	240	0
5. LOCK LH					
221 A REED	35	0	0	0	0
222 A BLACKMORE	35	0	0	0	0
223 D SIMS	35	0	0	180	0
224 B DAVISON	40	0	0	0	0
225 M POOLE	34	0	0	0	0
226 M BAYFIELD	32	0	0	0	0
227 C CUSANI	40	0	0	0	0
228 R MCCARTNEY	39	0	0	0	0
229 N HADLEY	33	0	0	0	0
230 K WESTGARTH	46	0	0	0	0
309 J FOWLER	32	0	0	160	160
231 R MACKIE	37	0	0	0	0
232 J TAYLOR	38	0	0	0	0
233 A HIGGINS	36	0	0	180	0
234 R SCOTT	40	0	0	0	0
235 S LLOYD	38	0	0	0	0
236 G ARCHER	40	0	0	400	0
237 G GRAY	42	0	0	0	0
238 M BURROW	44	0	0	0	0
239 D FALKINGHAM	46	0	0	0	0
240 N ALLOTT	48	0	0	0	0
310 M BRIGHT	33	0	0	0	0
6. WING SIDE FLANKER					
241 S OXNOH	21	0	0	0	0
242 I PATTEN	24	0	0	120	0
243 P GLANVILLE	27	0	0	0	0
244 T CORER	25	0	0	0	0
245 J WELLS	24	0	0	0	0
246 P WALTON	22	0			

Ruddock returns in Coca-Cola Cup

Liverpool ready to make most of semi-final delay

BY PETER BALL

THERE is nothing like having an alternative to fall back on — it takes the pressure off, allows you to relax when otherwise tension could prove unbearable — and Liverpool and Bolton Wanderers have that luxury when they go into the second legs of their Coca-Cola Cup semi-finals tonight.

If they are unable to make that last step to the final on April 2, then at least Liverpool can turn their minds to the FA Cup quarter-final with Tottenham Hotspur on Saturday, while Bolton can concentrate on their bid for promotion from the Endsleigh Insurance League and, in particular, their forthcoming clash with Middlesbrough, their leading rivals.

Crystal Palace and Swindon Town have no similar "Plan Bs". The respective opponents of Liverpool and Bolton are obvious underdogs in the semi-finals' second instalments this evening and can console themselves only with the thought that they have no such distractions to their pursuit of silverware and success this season.

Even the weather has done them few favours. Since rain forced the second legs to be postponed two weeks' ago, Liverpool, in particular, have gone from strength to strength, reaching new heights at the weekend with a 2-0 demolition of Newcastle United. If Selhurst Park is again waterlogged tonight, which is possible if the weather takes another turn for the worse, then just how good will Liverpool be when they finally do trot on to the pitch in suburban South Norwood?

In addition, Ruddock, the talismanic Liverpool defender, who would have missed the first game through suspension, is now available and Armstrong, the Palace spearhead, has been effectively suspended by the Football Association after his failed drugs test. It all points to Liverpool surviving comfortably.

Yet such views receive little encouragement at Anfield. Yesterday, Roy Evans, the Liverpool manager, revealed his education in the Anfield bootroom in every cautious word. It could have been Bob Paisley or even Kenny Dalglish speaking, such was the refusal to give hostages to fortune.

"People see us as favourites because we are a goal up [Liverpool won the first leg 1-0], but I don't see it that way," Evans said. "We have a slight cushion, but that is what it is, a slight cushion.

"I suspect Alan Smith may use the Chris Armstrong situation to his own advantage. He is the type of manager who can psych people up and that is why I don't think they will miss Armstrong that much."

With Ruddock missing, Jan Molby was due to play in the original second leg, but tonight he will be on the bench. Evans's only decision is whether to bring back Stig Inge Bjornebye after his nose operation in place of Walters as wing back. With a lead to protect, Bjornebye's defensive qualities point that way.

By contrast, Bolton, the favourites in the other game, but with a goal deficit to overhaul at Burnden Park after losing the first encounter 2-1, were promising patience rather than swashbuckling attack. Swindon's struggles in the league are not encouraging, but they are capable of scoring goals and one goal may not be enough for Bolton, who have yet to reach the final of the competition.

Last season, they reached the quarter-finals of the FA Cup before losing to Oldham Athletic. "Losing that game rocked us," John McGinlay, the Bolton striker, said. "We had a bad run and that is why this game is so important. We want to keep our league momentum going."



Evans: cautious



Bjornebye is in line for a recall to reinforce Liverpool's defence at Selhurst Park

IN BRIEF

Shaw gets boost with third victory

NORMA SHAW won the English Women's Indoor Bowling Association champion of champions singles title for the third time at Northampton yesterday, beating Annette Hallett 21-11 in the final. It was consolation for her defeat in the fours final, and a psychological boost for the English national singles competition, which starts tomorrow.

Shaw, of Thornaby, the winner in 1986 and 1987, pulled away from 9-9 and secured her victory over Hallett, of Dorchester, with a four on the eighteenth end.

Rule changes introduced

Hockey: Experimental rules aimed at making the game more attractive will be applied in the Norwich Union county championship, which starts next month.

Among the innovations, the striking circle will be ignored, allowing goals to be scored from anywhere within the 25-yard area. Free hits within the new scoring zone will be indirect. The offside rule will also be amended, so that it applies only when the ball is first hit into the 25-yard area.

Kind draw

Badminton: Joanne Wright, the English player seeded to reach two semi-finals in the Yonex All England championships next week, saw her chances improve when the draw kept her away from the top seeds in the women's and mixed doubles.

McRae hopeful

Motor rallying: Colin McRae, the Scottish driver, is joint favourite with his Subaru team-mate, Carlos Sainz, for the Portuguese Rally, which starts today.

Record attempt

Cycling: Marie Purvis, Britain's leading international road rider, makes her track competition debut on Friday when she attacks the national one-hour record at the new Manchester velodrome.

Bates through

Tennis: Jeremy Bates, of Britain, beat Jorn Renzenbrink, of Germany, 6-2, 7-6 in the first round of the Copenhagen Open tournament.

Doing nicely

Golf: The European Women's Tour has announced a three-year sponsorship deal with American Express, worth about £2 million.

Coverdale Lane gives improved display at Leicester

BY BRIAN BEEL

COVERDALE LANE was the surprise 11-1 winner of The Times Rising Stars qualifier at Leicester yesterday beating the 13-2 on favourite, Fiftysevenchannels, by 15 lengths.

This represented a considerable reversal in fortunes, as in the first qualifier at Hereford Coverdale Lane had finished tailed off behind Fifty-sevenchannels.

Fiftysevenchannels, ridden by Noel Wilson, attempted to make all the running, but with four to jump Coverdale Lane, an eight-year-old mare ridden by Pat Murray, began to make up ground and by the second last was almost level.

Fiftysevenchannels jumped that fence the better, as he had done throughout the race, but on the flat Coverdale Lane made further headway and after clearing the last she stayed on stoutly to take the spoils.

Coverdale Lane is owned Jim Pilkington, a dairy farmer from Gisburn, who went over to Ireland to buy her 12 months ago. He was disappointed with her run at Hereford. "We travelled overnight with her and I think the journey upset her. Having beaten the best, we'll now be going to Newbury for the final," he said.

It was a training first for Carol Richardson, who has a yard of 20 which includes point-to-pointers, show-jumpers and eventers. She was unable to be present and was represented by her head lad, Nick Saville.

Tim Walford, trainer of the runner-up, said: "The better horse won on the day."

THE TIMES RISING STARS

Yellow-card count passes thousand

BY RUSSELL KEMPSON

ASTON Villa's FA Carling Premiership match against Coventry City at Villa Park on Monday, with both clubs playing for the second time in three days, produced predictable tedium. No goals, not a lot of football and a point apiece that at least assisted the struggle against relegation.

The caution for Ugo Ehiogu, the Villa central defender, also provided another damning statistic in a season seemingly bedevilled by every football scandal imaginable. Ehiogu's yellow card was the thousandth brandished by the 22 Premiership referees since the campaign began in mid-August.

Graham Fenton, the young Aston Villa striker, took the miserable tally to 1,001 before the end, and, when added to the 55 Premiership dismissals this season — there were 30 in the whole of last season — it is clear that the disciplinary clampdown, carried out on the orders of Fifa, football's world governing body, is still spiralling out of control. Subsequently, suspensions are now all the rage, with injury-hit clubs further depleted at a vital stage of the championship run-in.

It is much the same story in the Endsleigh Insurance League. In the first division, there have been 990 cautions and 64 sendings-off; in the second, 927 and 62; in the third, 936 and 66. A sorry list totalling 3,854 bookings and 247 dismissals, with no sign of a let-up.

For Ron Atkinson, though, Monday night was one to savour, when he returned to the club that dismissed him three months ago and achieved an honourable draw, stretching Coventry's unbeaten run under him to four matches. Atkinson was accorded a big welcome, from both sets of supporters, and typically basked in the warm afterglow.

"I love the place and I wish Villa nothing but success," he said. "I have no problem with Brian Little [Atkinson's replacement] and I'm convinced he will do a good job. There's no danger of Villa going down and I'll be quite happy to finish one place below them. I'll be even happier, of course, to finish one place above. But really, I'd like to see them finish runners-up in the Premiership next season — second to us."

Before the match, Atkinson had made it clear that he was not too enthusiastic about the prospect of renewing acquaintance with Doug Ellis, the Villa chairman, who terminated his contract in the briefest of interviews.

"As far as I know, they did not meet," Steve Stride, the Villa secretary, said yesterday. Had they done, the count of Premiership red cards this season could now stand at 57.

Collymore rejects new contract offer

STAN COLLYMORE, the Nottingham Forest forward, has declined the offer of a lucrative new contract with the club, at least until the end of the season (Dennis Shaw writes). "There is only a couple of months to the end of the season," Collymore said yesterday. "I will leave it until then."

Forest are believed to have offered Collymore a contract worth up to £8,000 a week, but he is not convinced that he wants to stay at the City Ground. "Money isn't everything," he said. "I like to be happy. The happiest I've been was when I was banging in goals for Southend."

Frank Clark, the Forest manager, held talks with Collymore yesterday to discuss his contract and to ease the player's dissatisfaction. Collymore is still angry at his manager's accusation that he and Bryan Roy, his forward partner, did not work as hard as other players during the 2-2 draw with Tottenham Hotspur on Saturday.

"He has said he's going to prove me wrong and I hope he does," Clark said. "That's just the reaction I've been looking for." Collymore will get his first opportunity to do so in the FA Carling Premiership fixture with Everton at the City Ground tonight.

Tote nears record £10m profit

BY RICHARD EVANS
RACING CORRESPONDENT

EMBOLDENED by the recent extension of his Tote chairmanship for a further two years, Lord Wyatt of Weeford yesterday criticised Ladbrokes and William Hill and even hinted that his pool betting organisation could threaten their business.

Lord Wyatt, the chairman of the Tote since 1976, condemned the two big bookmaking chains for imposing strict limits on the amount their betting shop customers can win from Tote Placepots. He said: "They won't even take the Jackpot. The timid fellows daren't run the risk of a big win."

Speaking at the Tote lunch, he added: "Ladbrokes, by not putting the Placepots into the pool, now make an average annual profit per shop on them of £4,500 a year. That is a total of £8.5m for Ladbrokes after duty and levy. It is much the same for William Hill. Yet these greedy giants have the cheek to complain about the tiny increase in [Tote] fees to the Office of Fair Trading. The extra is only £4 a week per shop."

Lord Wyatt said the Tote would make a record operating profit this year of £10 million "and we look forward to still better next year."

Godden pulls rank to make progress

FROM COLIN MCQUILLAN IN LISBON

ROBIN GODDEN, the world No 73, strode confidently into the second round of the Portuguese Open squash championship here yesterday with a 15-8, 15-3, 15-3 win over Craig Rowland, an Australian ranked 51 places above him.

Godden, from Colchester, is one of a clutch of young British players here to pick up ranking points behind the front line players who have elevated the Portugese Open entry by using it to prepare for the British Open in Cardiff later this month.

He qualified for the main draw, in company with Julian Wellings, of Surrey, by defeating Christian Vind, of Austria. He then played with steady persistence to reach a second-round match against either Simon Parke, the England No 3, or Adrian Davies, the Welsh No 1.

Another Davies, the unrelated teenager Byron from Australia, went out in the same session 15-6, 15-5, 15-8 to Paul Johnson, of Surrey. But Australian honour was to some extent restored by Anthony Hill, the world No 9, who took his first major world tour title in Calcutta last month. He defeated Derek Ryan, of Ireland, 15-6, 15-6, 15-12, to meet Johnson today.

Wellings was due to meet late last night Rodney Eyles, the world No 3 from Australia, who is returning to competition here after a heart scare in England last week. Eyles collapsed just before a Surrey Cup match in Thames Ditton and was held in the cardiac unit of Kingston Hospital for extensive tests, but he arrived here with the news that he was feeling perfectly normal.

Zarak Jahan, of Pakistan, might have followed Eyles into the cardiac ward yesterday but for the protection of his referee, Carlos Pires, who chose to shepherd the little Pakistani in the second round at the end of his match against Dan Jenson from Australia.

With the games at 2-2 and Zarak under pressure leading 13-12 in the fifth game, Pires decided perversely that the Pakistani would have reached a forehand drive the tall, long-limbed Australia had played astutely to the far side of the court.

In fact Zarak had given up the ball and run straight into his opponent. The referee's decision gave the Pakistani match ball when justice might have called it 13-13, with Jenson in the ascendant.

RESULTS: First round: A Hill (Aus) bt D Ryan (Ire) 15-8, 15-6, 15-12; P Johnson (Eng) bt B Davies (Aus) 15-6, 15-5, 15-8; R Godden (Eng) bt C Rowland (Aus) 15-8, 15-3, 15-3; Jansher Khan (Pak) bt C Wisnicki (SA) 15-6, 15-5, 15-11; P Steel (NZ) bt C Montgomerie (Fr) 15-8, 15-8, 15-8; Zarak Jahan (Pak) bt D Jenson (Aus) 7-15, 17-14, 15-13, 3-15, 15-12; P Whitlock (Eng) bt A Thorén (Swe) 10-15, 17-14, 15-11, 15-8; P Nicol (Scot) bt J Raumolin (Fin) 15-9, 15-6, 15-3.

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FOR THE RECORD

BASKETBALL

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION (NBA): Chicago 103 Portland 83, Golden State 108 Seattle 103; La Clippers 101 Minnesota 88.

BOWLS

NORTHAMPTON: English women's indoor championships: Pairs: Final: L Woodley (Desborough) and M Price (Maidenhead) bt M London and A Waters (Angel) 25-5. Two-wood triples: Final: Cumbria bt Folkestone 16-11. Champion of champions: Singles: Quarter-finals: D Hunt (Swinford) bt N Edwards (British Cellophane) 21-6; N Shaw (Thornaby) bt S Waller (Camberley) 21-9, A Hallett (Dorchester) bt J Boosey (Stevenage) 21-18, F Linberry (Worthing) bt G Fitzgerald (Kettering) 21-16.

CRICKET

Centenary Test match
New Zealand v South Africa

AUCKLAND (fourth day of five, South Africa won toss): South Africa, with six second-innings wickets in hand, lead New Zealand by 198 runs

SOUTH AFRICA: First Innings 294 (D J Cullinan 96, D J Nash 4 for 72).

Second Innings

G Kirsten c Parore b Nash	78
R Steyn c Rutherford b Patel	13
A C Hudson c Young b Patel	64
D J Cullinan c Parore b Hart	12
*W J Cronje not out	58
J N Rhodes not out	7
Extras (lb 1, nb 1)	2
Total (4 wkts)	232

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-41, 2-123, 3-135, 4-218.

BOWLING: Morrison 15-5-45-0; Nash 15-2-50-1; Patel 28-6-69-2; Larsen 12-4-17-0; Hart 12-3-50-1.

NEW ZEALAND: First Innings

B A Young c Richardson b Donald	74
D J Murray c Kirsten b Cronje	25
M D Crowe c Hudson b de Villiers	18
S P Fleming b Matthews	17
*K R Rutherford c Richardson b Cronje	28
†A C Parore c Richardson b Donald	89
M N Hart low b Matthews	28
G R Larsen not out	26
D N Patel c Richardson b Donald	15
D J Nash low b de Villiers	1
D K Morrison c Cullinan b Donald	0
Extras (lb 5, w 1, nb 3)	9
Total	326

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-86, 2-108, 3-137, 4-144, 5-226, 6-268, 7-303, 8-321, 9-322.

BOWLING: Donald 32.4-11-88-4; de Villiers 36-13-78-2; Matthews 32-11-66-2; Cronje 17-3-48-2; Bosien 23-8-43-0.

Umpires: D Hair (Australia) and S Dunn (New Zealand)

PALMERSTON NORTH, New Zealand (fourth day of four): Sri Lanka 257 (C Mendis 75, S Jones 4-67) and 323 for five dec (A Ranatunga 107). New Zealand Academy XI 133 (J Silva 5-29, M Muralitharan 4-45) and 205 (N Astle 60; Silva 5-77, Muralitharan 5-55). Sri Lankans won by 242 runs.

BOMBAY: Masters Cup: Sri Lanka 204-9 (45 overs, B Ebrahim 4-38). South Africa 207-4 (41.3 overs; H Fotheringham 94no). South Africa won by six wickets

CYCLING

PARIS-NICE RACE: Third stage: Roanne to Clermont-Ferrand (168km): Leading placings: 1, W Nelissen (Bel), Lotto 4hr 22min; 2, G Matteo Fagnini (It), Mercatone Uno; 3, F Moncassin (Fr), Novell, 4, F Baldato (It), MG Technogym; 5, F Colonna (It), Mapei GB; 6, L Jalabert (Fr), ONCE; 7, P Tomacsarf (It), Mercatone Uno, 8, G Bortolami (It), Mapei GB; 9, J Werner (Ger), Telkom; 10, F Simon (Fr), Castorama all at 7sec. Overall standings: 1, Jalabert 13hr 16min 22sec; 2, A Tchmil (Moldova), Lotto at 1min 37sec; 3, S Haulot (Fr), Banesto 1:39; 4, Simon, 5, J Lauiola (Fin), Festina, 6, V Ekimov (Russ) Novell, 7, R Pesto (It), Mercatone Uno; 8, A Olano (Sp), Mapei GB; 9, B Sorensen (Den), MG Technogym; 10, U Bolts (Ger), Telkom all at 1 43.

FOOTBALL

Late results from Monday

FA CARLING PREMIERSHIP: Aston Villa 0 Coventry 0

BELL'S SCOTTISH LEAGUE: First division: Airdrie 1 Raith Rovers 2.

FA UMBRO TROPHY, Third-round replays: Hyde 4 Runcorn 0, Kidderminster 2 Ilkeston Town 1. Revised fourth-round draw: Marine v Hyde United; Enfield or Merthyr Tydfil v Rushden and Diamonds; or Kidderminster Harriers v Altrincham, Macclesfield Town v Woking. Ties to be played on March 25.

DIADORA LEAGUE: Premier division: Carshalton 0 Bromley 3.

BEAZER HOMES LEAGUE: Premier division: Chelmsford 0 Gloucester 2. Postponed: Hednesford Town v Sittingbourne.

PONTINS LEAGUE: Second division: Burnley 1 Newcastle 0

SMIRNOFF IRISH LEAGUE: Newry 1 Cliftonville 1

INTERLINK EXPRESS MIDLAND ALLIANCE: Brierley Hill 0 Halesowen Harriers 0.

UNIJET SUSSEX COUNTY LEAGUE: First division: Littlehampton 1 Burgess Hill 1.

JEWSON WESSEX LEAGUE CUP: Quarter-final, second leg: AFC Lymington 1 Fleet Town 1 (Lymington won 3-2 on penalties)

RIO DE JANEIRO CHAMPIONSHIP: First round: Group B: Fluminense 1 Bangu 1

ICE HOCKEY

NATIONAL LEAGUE (NHL): New York Rangers 4 Ottawa 3; Quebec 6 New Jersey 3, Dallas 8 Los Angeles 2, Detroit 5 Vancouver 2

ICE SKATING

BIRMINGHAM: World championships: Women: Qualifying: Group A: 1, I Slutskaya (Russ) 1.0 (actored pts; 2, H Yokoya (Japan) 2.0; 3, A Rechnio (Pol) 3.0; 4, J Yoganuma (Japan) 4.0; 5, K Kotwa (Japan) 5.0; 6, K Czako (Hun) 6.0; 7, T Bombardieri (It) 7.0; 8, Y Lavrenchuk (Ukr) 8.0; 9, S Lang (Ger) 9.0; 10, M Nikitocnkina (Belo) 10.0, 11, J Lautowa (Austria) 11.0, 12, K Berankova (Cz) 12.0 Group B: 1, N Bobek (US) 1.0; 2, Chen Lu (China) 2.0; 3, L Hubert (Fr) 3.0; 4, L Ruh (Switz) 4.0; 5, T Malinina (Uzb) 5.0; 6, M Kajas (Fin) 6.0; 7, M Andrade (Sp) 7.0, 8, M Kopac (Slovenia) 8.0; 9, J Robinson (Can) 9.0, 10, I Jakupcevic (Cro) 10.0

Ice dancing: Qualifying (after two compulsory dances): 1, O Grischuk and E Platov (Russ) 0.4; 2, S Rahkamo and P Kokko (Fin) 0.8; 3, S Momotte and P Lavanchy (Fr) 1.2, Joint 4, S-L Bourne and V Kraatz (Can); A Krylova and O Ovsiannikov (Russ) 1.8; 6, M Anassina and G Peizeral (Fr) 2.4; 7, T Navka and S Gerzilkin (Belo) 2.8; 8, I Romanova and I Yaroshenko (Ukr) 3.2; 9, K Mrozova and M Simecek (Cz) 3.6; 10, J Goolsbee and H Schamberger (Ger) 4.0; 11, R Roca and G Sur (US) 4.4; 12, M Drobazko and P Venagas (Lith) 4.8, 13, E Stekolnikova and D Kazarlyga (Kaz), I Lobacheva and I Averbuch (Russ) 5.4; 15, S Nowak and S Kolasinski (Pol) 6.2; 16, D Gerencser and A Stanislavov (Switz) 6.4, 17, B Piton and A Piton (Fr) 6.6; 18, J Boyce and M Brunet (Can) 7.4; 19, M Fitzgerald and V Kyle (GB) 7.8; 20, K Winkler and R Lohse (Ger) 7.8; 21, A MacLean and K Schaub (Aus) 8.4; 22, E Grushina and R Goncharov (Ukr) 8.8; 23, K Koinuma and T Arakelian (Armenia) 9.2; 24, A Kawai and H Tanaka (Japan) 9.8, 25, A Denkova and H Nikolov (Bul) 10.2, 26, S Vondrikova and L Kral (Cz), F Fermi and A Baldi (It) 10.4, 28, K Barany and G Szombathelyi (Hungary) 11.4; 29, K Kautsleml and J Walker (Fin) 11.8; 30, A Mosenkova and D Kurakin (Estonia) 11.6; 31, C Seydel and D Smart (Aus) 12.4; 32, F Kirk and C King (SA) 12.8.

LACROSSE

SHEPHERDS FRIENDLY SOCIETY (men): North league: First division: Heaton Mersey 10 Timperley 10; Stockport 11 Sheffield Steelers 5; Poynton 10 Ashton-under-Lyne 5, Old Waconians 15 Sale 5, Boardman and Eccles 2 Mellor 16.

RUGBY UNION

HEINEKEN LEAGUE: Second division: Maesteg 19 South Wales Police 14.

TOUR MATCH: Treorchy 5 Northern Transvaal 25.

HEREFORD: Marches Sevens: Results: Hawthorn HS 31 Epsom College 12; Llandovery College 24 Solihull 7; Arnold School 14 Rossall 19; Colston's 7 Monmouth School 12 Semi-finals: Hawthorn HS 40 Llandovery 7; Rossall 7 Monmouth 14. Final: Hawthorn 31 Monmouth 5

SQUASH

LISBON: Portuguese Open: First round: A Hill (Aus) bt D Ryan (Aus) 15-6, 15-8, 15-12; P Johnson (Eng) bt B Davies (Aus) 15-8, 15-5, 15-8; R Godden (Eng) bt C Rowland (Aus) 15-8, 15-13, 15-13

TENNIS

INDIAN WELLS, California: Women's tournament: Final: M J Fernandez (US) bt N Zvereva (Belo 6-4, 6-3.

Men: First round: A Gaudenzi (It) bt R Fromberg (US) 2-6, 6-2, 7-6; A Boetsch (Fr) bt A Peterson (US) 6-1, 6-2; D Wheaton (US) bt C Poline (Fr) 6-3, 6-1, A Costa (Sp) bt C Costa (Sp) 6-3, 6-3; H Skoff (Aus) bt A Chesnokov (Russ) 7-5, 6-3; J Bjorkman (Swe) bt K Novacek (Cz) 7-5, 6-2.

DELRAY BEACH, Florida: Women's tournament: First round: R McQuillan (Aus) bt L Tu (US) 7-5, 8-1; N Tauziat (Fr) bt R Grande (It) 7-6, 6-2; A Gavaldon (Mex) bt T Ignatieva (Belo) 6-4, 6-2; N Bradtke (Aus) bt S Wang (Taipei) 7-6, 6-2, S Rottier (Hol) bt K Studenikova (Slovakia) 7-6, 6-3; M Sánchez Lorenzo (Sp) bt P Hy Boulas (Can) 1-6, 7-5, 6-1; J Lee (US) bt B Schett (Austria) 7-6, 6-3; C Singer (Ger) bt N Louarsabshwi (Georgia) 5-7, 6-4, 6-3; C Cralea (Rom) bt C Torrens Valero (Sp) 4-6, 6-1, 7-6; R Bobkova (Cz) bt R Zrubakova (Slovakia) 6-3, 6-3; M Verna (Ven) bt N Baudone (It) 6-2, 6-0; J Nejedly (Can) bt S Testud (Fr) 6-1, 6-4; K Radford (Aus) bt C Vis (Hol) 5-7, 6-4

YACHTING

SAN DIEGO: America's Cup trials: Louis Vuitton Cup (challenger trials), TAG Heuer Challenge (C Dickson, NZ) bt Sydney 95 (S Fischer, Aus) 5min 50sec, Team New Zealand (M Jones) bt Roja de España (P Campos, Sp) 1:15; France III (M Pajot) bt one Australia (J Bertrand) did not compete. Overall positions: 1, Team New Zealand 60pts; 2, TAG Heuer Challenge 44, 3, one Australia 43; 4, Nippon '95 (M Nomiya, Japan) 23 Citizen Cup (defence trials) Young America (K Mahaney) bt Mighty Mary (L Egnor) 4:35. Overall positions: 1, Young America 39; 2, Stars & Stripes (D Conner) 32, 3, Mighty Mary 21.

TODAY'S FIXTURES

FOOTBALL

Kick-off 7.30 unless stated
* denotes all-ticket

Coca-Cola Cup
Semi-finals, second leg
* Bolton v Swindon
Crystal Palace v Liverpool (8.0)

FA Carling Premiership
Blackburn v Arsenal (7.45)
Manchester City v Chelsea (7.45)
Newcastle v West Ham (7.45)
Norwich v Sheffield Wednesday (7.45)
* Nottingham Forest v Everton
QPR v Leicester (7.45)
Tottenham v Ipswich (7.45)

Endsleigh Insurance League
First division
Millwall v Reading (7.45)
Portsmouth v West Bromwich (7.45)
Wolverhampton v Sunderland (7.45)

Bell's Scottish League
Second division
Meadowbank v Stirling

UNIBOND LEAGUE: President's Cup: Second round: Boston v Hyde Challenge Cup: Fourth round replay: Accrington Stanley v Bishop Auckland.

WINSTONLEAD KENT LEAGUE: First division: Canterbury v Herne Bay.

BEAZER HOMES LEAGUE: Premier division: Solihull v Worcester Southern division: Clevedon v Poole; Tonbridge v Fareham.

LONDON SPARTAN LEAGUE: Senior Challenge Cup: Third round: Wilesden v Welham Abbey.

GREAT MILLS LEAGUE: Premier division: Saltash v Barnstaple; Bridport v Torrington

FEDERATION BREWERY NORTHERN LEAGUE: First division: Northallerton v Whitby; Seaham Red Star v Murton.

CARLING NORTH WEST COUNTIES LEAGUE: First division: Holker Old Boys v Clitheroe; Nantwich v Rossendale; Penrith v Bootle.

JEWSON WESSEX LEAGUE: First division: Christchurch v BAT, East Cowes Vics v Cowes Sports, League Cup: Quarter-final: Second leg: Gosport v Brockenhurst.

UNIJET SUSSEX COUNTY LEAGUE: First division: Crowborough v Shoreham; Whitehawk v Southwick, Wick v Three Bridges.

NORTHERN COUNTIES EAST LEAGUE: President's Cup: Second round replay: Eccleshill v Glasshoughton Welfare. Semi-final: Hallam v North Ferriby.

SURREY SENIOR CUP: Whyteleafe v Sutton United.

KONICA LEAGUE OF WALES: Conwy v Holywell.

SPRINGHEATH PRINT CAPITAL LEAGUE: Barnet v Southend; Leyton Orient v Woking; Southend A v Gillingham.

AVON INSURANCE COMBINATION: First division: Arsenal v Tottenham Hotspur (3.0), Bristol Rovers v Wimbledon (at Yate Town); Charlton Athletic v Norwich City (at Welling FC, 7.0); Luton Town v Southampton (at Hitchin, 3.0). Postponed: Brighton v Watford. Second division: Bath v Exeter (at Keynsham); Cardiff v Torquay (2.0), Plymouth v Bournemouth, Swansea v Birmingham (2.0); Yeovil v Cheltenham (7.45).

PONTINS LEAGUE (7.0): First division: Derby County v Sheffield United; Tranmere Rovers v West Bromwich. Second division: Blackpool v York City; Hull v Barnsley; Mansfield v Middlesbrough; Preston North End v Bradford.

FAI HARP LAGER CUP: First round-second replay: Galway v Waterford (7.0).

SCHOOLS MATCHES: FA Premier League Under-16 Trophy: Quarter-final: Shropshire v Greater Manchester (at Telford) English Schools' Snickers Under-16 Trophy: Third round: Hewett HS (Norfolk) v Coplestone HS (Suffolk).

RUGBY LEAGUE

Stones Bitter Championship
Second division
Dewsbury v Keighley (8.0)

RUGBY UNION

Kick-off 7.30 unless stated
Representative matches
East Midlands v Barbarians (at Northampton, 3.0)
England Emerging Players v Northern Transvaal (at Bristol)

Club matches
Lydney v Army (7.0)
Oxford Univ v Oxfordshire (7.15)
Rosslyn Park v Royal Navy
Weston-super-Mare v Bristol Univ

BRITISH UNIVERSITIES SPORTS ASSOCIATION COMPETITION: Semi-finals: Swansea v Durham (at Nottingham, 2.30). Postponed: Loughborough v West London IHE.

NORTHERN SCHOOLS SEVENS' TOURNAMENT: (Stonyhurst College, 10.0; final 4.0)

OTHER SPORT

BASKETBALL: Budweiser League: Leicester v Worthing (8.0). Doncaster v Sunderland (8.0)

BOWLS: English women's national championships (Northampton).

ICE SKATING: World championships (NEC, Birmingham)

WORD-WATCHING

Answers from page 42

ANFRACTUOUS
(a) Intricate or circuitous. "Sit down, Mary-Anne. I realise that you may be wondering why we have decided to make you redundant without even a tin handshake, and I want you to know that I intend to give you the most anfractuous explanation that is possible."

NYCTITROPIC
(c) Turning in a certain direction at night, from the Greek nux night + tropos turning. "Graham is quite nyctitropic. Put him outside the house at night and he turns immediately in the direction of El Vino's."

QUAGGLE
(c) A quivering or quaking, as of jelly. "And our special prize for the old-time waltz group tonight goes to Mrs Pritchard, for her stunning Quaggle Effect."

HERDWICK
(a) A pasture for cattle or sheep. "Off to the herdwick again, old fellow? you can jovially inquire of your civil servant neighbour, as he sets off for the Underground in the morning. A nice effect can be produced by pronouncing this word as herrick, which is unauthentic but deuced plausible.

SOLUTION TO WINNING CHESS MOVE

1. . . . Bxd4+; 2. Bxd4 Rel+!; 3. Rxel (3. Qxe2 Qg2 is mate or 3. Kf2 Qxd2+; 4. Rxd2 Rxa1; 5. Bxa1 Rxd2+) 3. . . . Qxd2 and Black wins.

هكذا من الأصل

Approach of Cheltenham heralds latest chapter in success story

Maguire rises on tide of ambition

BY ALAN LEE

HE HAS acquired worldliness from defeat and a habitual limp from the pitfalls of his territory. But suggest to Adrian Maguire that his hunger may be dulled by familiarity and the elfin features will spread into an immense grin of wonder. It is a reassuring sight, for at 23 Maguire has already accumulated emotions and experiences that many sportsmen will not know in an entire career.

It all began at Cheltenham, only four springs ago, and when he returns to the Festival next week Maguire will ride strongly fancied runners in every championship race. This is no more than we would expect, of course, but the measure of Maguire is best made on the more humdrum days when a jump jockey performs for a few diehards and personal pride.

At Folkestone, a fortnight ago, he nursed a gelding of suspect legs and heart from last to first in a wretched selling hurdle. Then, last week at Ludlow, he galvanised Percy Smollett, a three-mile chaser, after a blunder that would have cost any other jockey his race and given most a nasty fall. These were the feats of a rare rider, inspired by ambition as well as ability.

Maguire on horseback is a portrait of balance and concentration. "As soon as I get on board, I put everything else out of my mind, even if Cheltenham is looming, even if it's blowing a gale and snowing in my face. You cannot start thinking about tomorrow, or next week. Once I had hit the ground a few times, this came naturally to me. A bad fall can concentrate the mind," he grinned.

"In the week before Cheltenham I'm a bit careful about what I ride, because there is no point in having your arm in a sling watching someone else on your best horses. But I'm only in my fourth season and if I'm not hungry now, I never will be."

Maguire understands the sentiments of his friend and rival Richard Dunwoody, who claims he can now see a world outside racing and is no longer prepared to dehydrate in a hellish world of saunas and self-deprivation. But Maguire cannot share the view. "Richard and I have discussed this. You only have so many years in this game to make out of them what you can. Richard has been there and done it all. He can afford to settle down and enjoy it a bit more. I've a few years to make up yet."

When the jockeys' title race went to the final meeting of last season it left both men utterly exhausted. "It took me a week to settle down," Maguire recalled. "I was restless, getting up in the morning with nowhere to go. I found it hard to readjust. But the whole experience matured me, I think. There was a lot of pressure, day after day, and to have put so much into it and still come away beaten taught me a lot about myself."

Maguire is now encountering celebrity status for the first time. "I'm aware of being recognised much more often," he said. Then there is the mail. "A lot of it is real fan mail. But I get plenty of nasty letters, too, some very abusive. It's unbelievable, some of the things they write. They obviously don't understand racing and they can't know me to write such things."

The uninformed detractors are vastly outnumbered by admirers, as is only right for one who has passed 500 British winners more than three years quicker than Peter Scudamore's previous record. It comes as no surprise to Maguire's first mentor, the Irish trainer, Michael Hourigan, who recalled: "Winning was the only thing he knew. He believed he couldn't be beaten."

But even Maguire is beaten more often than not and, occasionally, the hurt shows. On Boxing Day at Kempton Park, when Barton Bank had the King George VI Chase at his mercy until a last-fence calamity, Maguire openly wept. "It's rare for me to be taken that way but I was just so disgusted. I didn't feel sorry for myself, just for everyone connected with the horse."

Barton Bank is third favourite for the Gold Cup and, although worried about the prevailing soft ground, Maguire is optimistic. "I schooled him over six fences on Monday and he was brilliant." He is quietly confident, too, about Viking Flagship retaining his two-mile chasing crown. "He's a stuffy horse. He'll come on for his Kempton run."

In the Triumph Hurdle he is leaning towards the unbeaten Anzum ahead of David Nicholson's other runner, Silver Wedge, but Maguire reserves much of his animation for the Champion Hurdle, in which his mount, Relkeel, has been widely ignored amid the hype for other fancies.

"That suits me fine. It's a good sign. I don't know how good he is yet because he has only doddled around when I've put him in front. The danger is Fortune And Fame but my horse can quicken off a high cruising speed."

Maguire has not yet won a Champion Hurdle, nor a jockeys' title. But even if he conquers both summits this season, do not expect the fire within him to be doused. His relish of the life is plain from his eyes and his voice. Long may it be sustained.

Jodami, the second favourite for the Cheltenham Gold Cup a week tomorrow, pleased his trainer, Peter Beaumont, in a workout over 1½ miles at Doncaster racecourse yesterday. "I'm convinced the horse is as good as he was when he won the Gold Cup in 1993," Beaumont said.



MARTIN LYNCH

Maguire reserves the keenest of his Cheltenham Festival enthusiasm for Relkeel, right, in the Champion Hurdle next Tuesday

WOLVERHAMPTON

THUNDERER

2.10 Ziggy's Dancer. 2.40 Allemande. 3.10 Legally Delicious. 3.40 Pontynyswen. 4.10 Gallery Artist. 4.40 Primula Bairn. 5.10 No Submission. 5.40 Orthorhombus.

Our Newmarket Correspondent: 2.40 ALLEMANDE (nap). 3.10 Legally Delicious. 3.40 Gallery Artist.

GOING: STANDARD SIS
DRAW: NO ADVANTAGE

2.10 SANDSTORM HANDICAP
(Div I: £3,024: 6f) (9 runners)

1 404- THE OLD CHAPEL 116 (B,D,S) B McMahon 6-10-0 J Weaver 5
2 0312 ZIGGY'S DANCER 18 (C,BF,G) E Alston 4-9-12 D Holland 9
3 0334 LETSBEONESTABOUTIT 7 (V,CD,F,G,S) Mrs N Macauley 9-9-2 Dean McKeown 1
4 0/5 MARTINOSKY 4 (D,F,G) G Bravery 9-9-1 G Carter 2
5 6600 GREEN'S BID 30 (D,G) D Chapman 5-9-1 A Culhane 3
6 0-22 THE INSTITUTE BOY 13 (D,S) Miss J Cook 5-8-13 S Webster 7
7 0-61 LADY ROXANNE 12 (V,D,S,S) Lord Huntingdon 6-8-7 L Dettori 4
8 240- SOUPERCIAL 161 (V,F) J Glover 4-8-6 M Fenton 6
9 0002 MONSIEUR PETOINS 9 (D,G) J Parles 4-7-10 Darren Moffatt (3) 8

7-2 The Old Chapel, 5-1 Ziggy's Dancer, Lady Roxanne, The Institute Boy, 6-1 Letsbeonestaboutit, 7-1 Martinosky, 10-1 Souperficial, 16-1 others.

2.40 TEMPEST MAIDEN STAKES
(£3,775: 1m 100yd) (13)

1 0 DANSON 9 T Caldwell 4-9-10 G Duffield 8
2 4/3- TATIKA 280 G Wragg 5-9-10 W Woods 10
3 DALERIA 279 J Eyre 4-9-5 J Stack (5) 6
4 6 MOON AIR 32 R Hollinshead 4-9-5 M Wigham 3
5 PRETTY SCARCE 55J S Sherwood 4-9-5 S Drowne (5) 11
6 0- ADILOV 175 J Fanshawe 3-8-6 N Varley (5) 9
7 ALLEMANDE J Gosden 3-8-6 L Dettori 2
8 ASKING J Bennett 3-8-6 D Holland 12
9 -003 HAPPY BRAVE 16 P Cundell 3-8-6 R Price 1
10 620- HOWOLA RIVER 106 F Chapple-Hyam 3-8-6 R Havlin (7) 7
11 00-3 SPEEDY SNAPS PRIDE 10 P Cundell 3-8-6 A Mackay 5
12 FRAISE DU ROI Lord Huntingdon 3-8-1 N Carlisle 4
13 MISS JEMIMMA Lord Huntingdon 3-8-1 Dale Gibson 13

6-4 Allemande, 3-1 Tatika, 4-1 Howqua River, 8-1 Adilov, 12-1 others

3.10 CYCLONE HANDICAP
(3-Y-O: £4,046: 1m 100yd) (6)

1 150- QWOBETTS 137 (F) S L Moore 9-7 L Sutham (7) 2
2 0-41 RENOWN 13 (E) Lord Huntingdon 9-8 L Dettori 6
3 1202 OUR TOM 18 (C,G) J Wharton 8-2 N Carlisle 3
4 4-1 LEGALLY DELICIOUS 51 (D,G) J Banks 7-11 M Baird (5) 1
5 000- GREY AGAIN 163 (C,G) S Bowring 7-10 T Williams 4
6 0-12 BAKERS DAUGHTER 4 (D,G) J Arnold 7-9 D Wright (3) 5

9-4 Renown, 7-2 Legally Delicious, 4-1 Bakers Daughter, Our Tom, 6-1 others.

3.40 HURRICANE HANDICAP (£5,576: 1m 4f) (12)

1 -014 HILLZAH 14 (CD,F,G,S) R Bastiman 7-10-0 H Bastiman (5) 4
2 -111 NOUFARI 14 (CD,G) R Hollinshead 4-9-13 M Wigham 3
3 -002 ONE OFF THE RAIL 34 (D,G) A Moore 5-9-8 Candy Morris 5
4 -123 PRINCE DANZIG 15 (D,F,G) D Murray Smith 4-9-5 J Weaver 7
5 1453 LEGAL FICTION 7 (C,G) M Johnston 4-9-4 D Holland 11
6 1426 MENTALASANYTHIN 14 (C,D,S,S) A Bailey 6-9-3 A Mackay 8
7 1213 MAD MILITANT 5 (CD,F,S) R Hollinshead 6-9-1 W Ryan 9
8 20-5 CHIMBORAZO 14 B McMahon 4-9-0 L Dettori 1
9 -433 JOHNS ACT 14 (V,S) D Haydn Jones 5-8-13 K Darley 12
10 1330 THALEROS 18 (D,G) G Moore 5-8-8 T Williams 6
11 1016 AWESTRUCK 4 (CD,F,S,S) B Preece 5-7-9 L Charnock 10
12 00-1 PONTYNYSWEN 15J (B,CD,G) D Burchell 7-7-7 D Wright (3) 2

5-2 Noufari, 6-1 Johns Act, Prince Danzig, 7-1 Hillzah, 8-1 Legal Fiction, Mad Militant, 10-1 One Off The Rail, 12-1 others.

4.10 BLIZZARD SELLING STAKES
(Div I: £2,433: 1m 1f 79yd) (10)

1 4021 EASTLEIGH 11 (B,S) R Hollinshead 6-9-4 W Ryan 8
2 000- BOXBOY 77J G Yardley 5-9-12 R Price 4
3 000- COBBS CROSS 106J T Caldwell 5-9-12 G Duffield 10
4 P00- DEPUTY TIM 128 (D,F,G,S) S Bastiman 10-9-12 L Charnock 6
5 0-36 GALLERY ARTIST 18 (C,G,S) R Guest 7-9-7 L Dettori 2
6 00-0 SWYNFORD FLYER 4 (CD,F,G) J F Adams 6-9-7 D Holland 5
7 040- FABULOUS PRINCESS 90J (F) C Thornton 4-8-8 B Doyle 1
8 000- HILL FARM KATIE 148 (G) W Brisbourne 4-8-6 A Garth (5) 9
9 -302 HI PENNY 12 (B) K Ivory 4-8-6 C Scally (7) 7
10 -336 JOINT EFFORT 43 A Moore 4-8-6 T Williams 3

5-2 Eastleigh, 7-2 Hi Penny, 4-1 Gallery Artist, 6-1 Swynford Flyer, 8-1 Joint Effort, 10-1 Cobbs Cross, 12-1 Hill Farm Katie, 16-1 others.

4.40 TORNADO HANDICAP (£3,708: 5f) (13)

1 0-12 LORD SKY 11 (V,CD,BF,F,G,S) A Bailey 4-10-0 L Dettori 5
2 3522 LEIGH CROFTER 5 (V,CD,F,G,S) P Cundell 6-9-13 D Griffiths (5) 9
3 010- SADDLEHOME 112 (CD,F,G,S) T Barron 6-9-12 K Darley 2
4 2031 KALAR 6 (B,D,F,G) D Chapman 6-9-6 (7ex) C Teague (7) 4
5 051- SWAN AT WHALLEY 243 (D,F) J Berry 5-9-3 J Carroll 13
6 610- KING RAMBO 168 (D,G) A Hollinshead 4-9-0 W Ryan 10
7 6114 SCORED AGAIN 14 (CD,F,G,S) M Heaton-Ellis 5-8-13 Amanda Sanders (7) 6
8 5113 PRIMULA BAIRN 18 (V,CD,BF,G,S) Mrs J Ramsden 5-8-11 J Weaver 3
9 0-60 BONDO 5 (D,F,G,S) E Alston 3-8-11 D Holland 8
10 30-5 SALTZ 11 P Delton 3-8-7 S Sanders (5) 12
11 325- LA BELLE DOMINIQUE 83 S Wright 3-8-1 Darren Moffatt (3) 1
12 253- MY CHERRYWELL 117 (BF) Lloyd-James 5-8-1 N Kennedy 7
13 1242 CHADWELL HALL 9 (B,C,BF,G) S Bowring 4-8-0 T Williams 11

9-2 Lord Sky, 5-1 Primula Bairn, 6-1 Leigh Crofter, 7-1 Kalar, Scored Again, 8-1 Saddlehome, 10-1 Swan At Whalley, 12-1 others.

5.10 BLIZZARD SELLING STAKES
(Div II: £2,433: 1m 1f 79yd) (9)

1 0000 BALLYHAYS 11 (C,G) J A Harris 6-9-4 Dale Gibson 9
2 2111 NO SUBMISSION 5 (B,S) D Chapman 9-9-4 Dean McKeown 8
3 -006 ANORAK 9 (V,CD,G) G Moore 5-9-12 J Weaver 1
4 00-5 BACKSTABBER 14 (G) Miss S Wilton 5-8-12 J Stack (5) 7
5 005- DELMOUR 208 W Brisbourne 4-8-11 A Garth (5) 6
6 0 MELLING 7 R Hodges 4-8-11 S Drowne (5) 2
7 /04 KRISTIS GIRL 12 (B,S) D Haydn Jones 5-8-7 A Mackay 4
8 000- BUSTLEEM 47J (G) T McCain 4-8-6 K Darley 5
9 0502 T O O MAMMA'S 18 (CD,F,S) J Berry 4-8-6 J Carroll 3

1-2 No Submission, 5-1 T O O Mamma's, 7-1 Knotie Girl, 8-1 Anorak, 12-1 Ballyhays, 16-1 Backstabber, Delmour, 20-1 others.

5.40 SANDSTORM HANDICAP
(Div II: £3,024: 6f) (9)

1 65-1 WHITE SORREL 19 (D,G) J Eyre 4-9-12 J Stack (5) 8
2 -050 JOM'S CHOICE 18 (CD,G) S Preece 7-9-5 T Wall 4
3 200- PLUM FIRST 169 (D,F,S) Lloyd-James 5-8-10 N Kennedy 2
4 5562 ORTHORHOMBUS 12 (B,D,F) D Chapman 6-8-10 D R McCabe (3) 7
5 -536 APOLLO RED 11 (D,G,S) A Moore 6-8-11 Candy Morris 5
6 4330 HEATHYARDS LADY 18 (CD,F,G) P Haslam 4-8-10 W Ryan 9
7 -501 FARMER JOCK 9 (CD,F,G,S) Mrs N Macauley 13-8-7 Dean McKeown (3) 1
8 0335 MATTHEW DAVID 12 (D,G) S Bowring 5-8-4 T Williams 6
9 -054 WELLSY LAD 12 (B,D,G,S) D Chapman 6-7-7 N Carlisle 3

5-2 White Sorrel, 9-2 Farmer Jock, 5-1 Orthorhombus, 6-1 Wellsy Lad, 7-1 Apollo Red, Matthew David, 8-1 Jom's Choice, 12-1 others.

COURSE SPECIALISTS

TRAINERS: G Wragg, 4 winners from 6 runners, 66.7%; J Gosden, 3 from 7, 42.9%; M Johnston, 20 from 71, 28.2%; R Bastiman, 5 from 18, 27.8%; M Heaton-Ellis, 4 from 15, 26.7%; Lord Huntingdon, 7 from 51, 25.5%.

JOCKEYS: R Bastiman, 4 winners from 12 rides, 33.3%; W Ryan, 8 from 30, 30.0%; J Weaver, 41 from 165, 24.8%; Darren Moffatt, 4 from 125, 21.6%; Amanda Sanders, 3 from 14, 21.4%; D Duffield, 10 from 49, 20.4%.

CATTERICK

THUNDERER

2.00 Merry Mermaid. 2.30 Clonony Castle. 3.00 Joyrider. 3.30 High Alltitude. 4.00 Test Match. 4.30 Sheelin Lad. 5.00 Go-Informal.

Brian Beel: 2.30 Final Hope.

GOING: GOOD TO SOFT (SOFT IN PLACES) SIS

2.00 HORNBY NOVICES HURDLE
(£2,383: 2m) (13 runners)

1 4041 GALLARDINI 11 (D,G) B Rothwell 6-11-10 J Supple (5) 92
2 513 MERRY MERMAID 8 (CD,S) J Bottomley 5-11-5 D Byrne 89
3 6/03 AUCTION KING 81 A Smith 6-11-3 S Turner 84
4 W CEE-JAY-AY 7F J Berry 8-11-3 Mr R Hale –
5 3 GENERAL CHAOS 9 J J O'Neill 5-11-3 M Dwyer 91
6 /P-0 GREY SESSON 28 W Clay 6-11-3 N Jukes (7) –
7 00- WHATDIDYOUSAY 364 B Bousfield 7-11-3 A Roche (3) –
8 P0 CHANTRY BELLE 18 Mrs S Austin 6-10-12 D Wilkinson –
9 P CRAMONA 9 W Storey 5-10-12 N Doughty –
10 3-00 PARSON'S LODGE 33 L Lungo 7-10-12 T Reed 81
11 ROMANY SMITH A Le Blond 9-10-12 A Lanoch (3) –
12 P BURRINGHAM BOY 9 B Rothwell 4-10-9 R Supple –
13 F00 SALLYOREALLY 9 W Storey 4-10-4 K Johnson –

7-4 Merry Mermaid, 5-2 General Chaos, 3-1 Gallardini, 8-1 Auction King, 16-1 Parson's Lodge, 25-1 Romany Smith, 33-1 others.

2.30 RABY NOVICES HUNTERS CHASE
(£1,282: 3m 1f 110yd) (17)

1 23-P ARDEN 25P (F,G) D Smith 11-12-0 N F Smith (7) –
2 0FP3 ARM IN ARM 10P (G) Miss R Booth 10-12-0 Miss S Shorrall (7) –
3 162-P CHAPEL ISLAND 25P (G) E Tear 8-12-0 P Jenkins (7) –
4 0-54 CLONONY CASTLE 8 (B) Miss D McGuinness 9-12-0 C Bonner (5) –
5 PF-0 CONVINCING 18P J Comforth 11-12-0 P Comforth (7) 88
6 0/9 DEISE MARSHALL 8 P Cheesbrough 7-12-0 J Greenall –
7 P4-P DRUMAN FOX 19P S Robinson 9-12-0 Simon Robinson (7) –
8 4-4P FINAL HOPE 10P (G,S) R Tate 7-12-0 Mrs F Needham (7) –
9 P233 HUNGRY JACK 340P D Atkinson 7-12-0 P Atkinson (7) –
10 -P28 HISHIONA 10P (F,S) M Sowerby 7-12-0 M Sowerby (7) 85
11 005- QUIDALL CROSSETT 281 E Cano 10-12-0 K Green (7) –
12 222- SIDE BRACE 301P (G) J Swindells 11-12-0 Miss K Swindells (7) –
13 PP-0 ADVENT LADY 11P M Sams 8-11-9 A Mannikes (7) –
14 PP-3 CASTLE TYRANT 25P S Clark 6-11-9 S Brisby (7) –
15 3PP- DORIS BLAKE 301P J Swindells 12-11-9 Miss S Swindells (7) –
16 P/4U LUCY AT THE MINUTE 16 Miss C Richardson 8-11-9 P Murray (7) –
17 56-F TANGO IN PARIS 25P Mrs E Moscrop 5-11-5 P Johnson (5) –

5-2 Final Hope, 5-1 Side Brace, Clonony Castle, 8-1 Convincing, 10-1 others.

3.00 WEARDALE SELLING HURDLE
(£1,958: 2m) (15)

1 -022 HOT PUNCH 16 (S) H Alexander 6-11-10 D Thomas (7) 88
2 BEWARE OF AGENTS 35F M Hammond 6-11-3 D Bentley –
3 0P0 BOETHIUS 25 F Watson 6-11-3 S Storey –
4 456- CLEEVAUN 412 (G) J J O'Neill 7-11-3 M Dwyer 92
5 0- EXCLUSION 9F J Hetherton 6-11-3 R Morley –
6 4626 FRIENDLY KNIGHT 25 J Haldane 5-11-3 A Dobbin 97
7 P-0 FUTURE FAME 287 Mrs S Austin 6-11-3 D Wilkinson –
8 -423 MILTON ROONAS 25 D Garnston 6-11-3 E Husband (5) 95
9 3622 MUST BE MAGICAL 11 P Bradley 7-11-3 B Harding (5) 97
10 5001 JOYRIDER 8 (D,S) Miss M Milligan 4-11-2 Richard Guest 97
11 P EMMA'S VISION 11 M Axison 5-10-12 R Garritty –
12 00 MOLLY MINSTREL 29 J Johnson 6-10-12 F Leahy (5) –
13 064 ICANSPELL 25 W Storey 4-10-9 J Supple (5) 94
14 0 KING OF THE HORSE 93 W Storey 4-10-9 N Doughty –
15 00 STROLLING MINSTREL 51F B Rothwell 4-10-9 R Supple –

3-1 Hot Punch, 5-1 Must Be Magical, Cleevaun, 6-1 Joyrider, 7-1 Milton Roons, Icanspell, 10-1 Friendly Knight, 14-1 others.

3.30 PETER VAUX MEMORIAL TROPHY NOVICES CHASE
(£2,846: 2m 3f) (6)

1 -451 ANOTHER RED 25 (C,S) W Raw 7-11-8 M Hourigan 81
2 24F1 HIGH ALLTITUDE 18 (G,S) B Moore 7-11-8 N Doughty 89
3 1-PF GENERAL RUSTY 88 (G) F Kirby 7-11-2 N Smith –
4 0006 MULLINGAR 8 J Charlton 6-11-2 B Storey –
5 FF-P JUST MOLLY 8 (S) W Reed 8-10-11 T Reed –
6 0P0P LA MOLINILLA 11 (F) Mrs K Lamb 12-10-11 Miss S Lamb (7) –

1-3 High Alltitude, 4-1 Another Red, 10-1 Mullingar, 20-1 Just Molly, 25-1 General Rusty, 33-1 La Molinilla.

4.00 RUDBY HANDICAP HURDLE
(£2,049: 2m 3f) (8)

1 3112 INGLETONIAN 12 (CD,S) B Williamson 6-11-11 D Bentley 80
2 4310 TEST MATCH 46 (D,B,S) W Clay 8-11-8 Diane Clay 97
3 0215 FOX CHAPEL 18 (B,E,S) R Jukes 8-11-7 N Jukes (7) 93
4 10P2 SUNDAY NEWS'N'ECHO 8 (B) W Storey 4-11-4 J Supple (5) 93
5 /55 CHILL WIND 18 (F,S) N Byerott 6-11-1 D Towler (7) 80
6 06BP FANTASTICAL 7 (S) J O'Neill 7-10-10 M Dwyer 96
7 -06P MARDOOD 57 (D,E,S) S Clark 10-10-6 Miss R Clark (7) 82
8 F4-2 LITTLE CONKER 96 A Smith 7-10-5 S Turner 92

6-4 Ingletonian, 3-1 Sunday News'n'echo, 4-1 Fox Chapel, 7-1 Test Match, 8-1 Little Conker, 10-1 Fantastical, 14-1 others.

4.30 NEWBY NOVICES HANDICAP CHASE
(£2,604: 3m 1f 110yd) (10)

1 3312 SHEELIN LAD 25 (D,BF,S) L Lungo 7-12-0 T Reed 96
2 PP5 ALY DALEY 99 J Johnson 7-11-9 F Leahy (5) 80
3 33P2 TWIN STATES 8 (S) J Turner 6-11-7 W Fry (7) 88
4 -PP6 PADDY MORRISSEY 33 J Haldane 8-11-1 N Doughty 96
5 -003 BUSY BOY 34 D Lamb 8-10-8 Mr A Manzoors (7) –
6 3064 LAST REFUGE 34 T Carr 6-10-8 Richard Guest –
7 -430 ESTABLISH 29 J Dodds 7-10-8 K Johnson 93
8 F656 CELTIC TOKEN 11 P Beasley 5-10-2 Gary Lyons 89
9 0SP0 WAYWARD EDWARD 34 (S) Mrs S Lamyman 9-10-0 R Davis 80
10 PP-0 GALE STORM 33 (S) J Brown 11-10-0 Mr T Scott –

7-4 Sheelin Lad, 7-2 Aly Daley, 5-1 Twin States, 6-1 Paddy Morrissey, 7-1 Celtic Token, 12-1 Busy Boy, 16-1 others.

COURSE SPECIALISTS

TRAINERS: J Bottomley, 3 winners from 12 runners, 25.0%; L Lungo, 8 from 34, 23.5%; Jimmy Fitzgerald, 16 from 78, 20.5%; M Hammond, 15 from 94, 16.0%; G Moore, 12 from 75, 16.0%; E Caine, 3 from 20, 15.0%.

JOCKEYS: M Hourigan, 3 winners from 9 rides, 33.3%; M Dwyer, 22 from 82, 26.8%; D Byrne, 8 from 50, 16.0%; W Fry, 4 from 27, 14.8%; A Dobbin, 11 from 75, 14.7%; R Morley, 6 from 45, 13.3%; N Bentley, 7 from 53, 13.2%.

5.00 TRIPLEPRINT OPEN NATIONAL HUNT FLAT RACE
(£1,382: 2m) (14)

1 5 FELDSPAR 49 J Edwards 6-11-2 D Bentley –
2 4-0 GARBO'S BOY 159 J Turner 5-11-2 S Turner –
3 JOINT ACCOUNT R Tate 5-11-2 Mrs F Needham –
4 0 MOUNT FABER 88 Jimmy Fitzgerald 5-11-2 E Callaghan (7) –
5 OLIVER'S MATE P Dennis 5-11-2 B Grattan (7) –
6 SUTTON BOY Lady Ann Bowlby 6-11-2 G Harker –
7 600- TALL FELLOW 279 S Clark 5-11-2 Miss R Clark (7) –
8 13 GENERAL'S ORDERS 11 (S) J Norton 4-11-1 W Fry (7) –
9 12 GO-INFORMAL 29 (BF,S) J Jefferson 4-11-1 M Dwyer –
10 KARIBU M Meagher 4-10-8 L Wyer –
11 PEGASUS BAY W Haigh 4-10-8 K Davies –
12 CLAREVAL J Johnson 4-10-3 S Taylor (7) –
13 0 NOON RIDGE 46 Mrs K Tuby 4-10-3 Mr N Tuby (7) –
14 0 SEDGWICK HOUSE 11 R Fisher 4-10-3 M Molloy (7) –

7-4 General's Orders, 5-2 Go-Informal, 6-1 Feldspar, 8-1 Claireval, 12-1 Joint Account, 14-1 Pegasus Bay, 16-1 others.

COURSE SPECIALISTS

TRAINERS: J Bottomley, 3 winners from 12 runners, 25.0%; L Lungo, 8 from 34, 23.5%; Jimmy Fitzgerald, 16 from 78, 20.5%; M Hammond, 15 from 94, 16.0%; G Moore, 12 from 75, 16.0%; E Caine, 3 from 20, 15.0%.

JOCKEYS: M Hourigan, 3 winners from 9 rides, 33.3%; M Dwyer, 22 from 82, 26.8%; D Byrne, 8 from 50, 16.0%; W Fry, 4 from 27, 14.8%; A Dobbin, 11 from 75, 14.7%; R Morley, 6 from 45, 13.3%; N Bentley, 7 from 53, 13.2%.

Blinkered first time

FOLKESTONE: 2.20 Grunge. 3.50 Dunlir, Stapleford Lady.
WOLVERHAMPTON: 4.40 Lord Sky.

FOLKESTONE

THUNDERER

1.50 Alice's Mirror	3.20 Hawaiian Youth
2.20 Woodlands Boy	3.50 Moynsha House
2.50 SHOOFK (nap)	4.20 Catchapenny
	4.50 Dantes Cavalier

The Times Private Handicapper's top rating: 2.50 SHOOFK.

GUIDE TO OUR IN-LINE RACECARD

101 113143 GOOD TIMES 13 (BF,F,6,S) (Mrs D Robinson) B Hall 12-0 B West (7) 88

Racecard number. Sb-figure form (F — fell. P — pulled up. U — unseated rider. B — brought down. S — slipped up. R — refused. D — disqualified). Horse's name. Days since last outing; F if flat. (B — blinkers. V — visor. H — hood. E — Eyeshield. C — course winner. D — distance winner. CD — course and distance winner. BF — beaten favourite in latest race). Going on which horse has won (F — firm, good to firm, hard. G — good. S — soft, good to soft, heavy). Owner in brackets. Trainer. Age and weight. Rider plus any allowance. The Times Private Handicapper's rating.

GOING: GOOD TO SOFT, SOFT IN PLACES (CHASE COURSE): SOFT, HEAVY IN PLACES (HURDLES) SIS

1.50 SANDGATE MARES ONLY CLAIMING HURDLE
(£1,994: 2m 1f 110yd) (10 runners)

101 0/46446- JENNYELLEN 491 (L Mulryan) M Pipe 5-11-9 R Dunwoody 91
102 0530-50 GAMEFULL GOLD 49 (G) (G Brown) S Dow 6-11-6 J Osborne 94
103 0-0 FLAMING SANDS 86 (M Foulger) K Musgrove 5-11-5 J Ryan –
104 9-2U134 ALICE'S MIRROR 30 (B,D,S,S) (T McGovern) T McGovern 6-11-4 D Bridgwater 89
105 006 DRAGONMIST 19F (R Dows) M Madgwick 5-11-4 A Maguire 84
106 6P3-S83 OUR NIKKI 14 (A Stromberg) P Redford 5-11-0 S Burrough 76
107 50/400 PONTEVECCHIO BELLA 19 (S) (Mrs H Clarke) Mrs L Jewell 9-11-0 J Railton 84
108 00 MARROWFAT LADY 90 (Mrs N Dudfield) Mrs P Dudfield 4-10-10 P Holley –
109 453310 LOOSE CHANGE 90 (S) (K Higson) G L Moore 4-10-8 A P McCoy 73
110 4000 SPRINGTIME AFFAIR 48 (G Wiltshire) J Muffins 4-10-8 L Harvey –

BETTING: 9-4 Alice's Mirror, 5-2 Jennyellen, 6-1 Our Nikki, 7-1 Loose Change, 10-1 Gamefull Gold, 12-1 Dragonmist, Ponteveccho Bella, 14-1 others.

1994: NO CORRESPONDING RACE

FORM FOCUS

JENNYELLEN 41½i 6th of 10 to Mustahil in novice hurdle at Exeter (2m 2f, firm) November 1993. ALICE'S MIRROR 16½i 4th of 13 to Namaste in handicap hurdle at Fontwell (2m 2f, soft). Previously beat and 1l 3rd of 13 to Titan Empress in handicap hurdle at Plumpton (2m 4f, soft) with GAMEFULL GOLD (3lb better off) 11½i 5th. DRAGONMIST 34l 6th of 11 to Ready To Draw in claiming novice hurdle at Fontwell (2m 2f, soft). OUR NIKKI 11½l 3rd of 11 to Cheveley Dancer in selling handicap hurdle over course and distance (heavy). PONTEVECCHIO BELLA best effort this term about 12l 4th of 6 to Chiappucci in conditional jockeys selling hurdle at Plumpton (2m 1f, soft). LOOSE CHANGE beat Alaskan Heir 1¼l in 9-runner selling hurdle at Towcester (2m, good to soft) on penultimate start.
Selection: ALICE'S MIRROR

2.20 WHITELAW GOLD CUP NOVICES CHASE
(£3,460: 3m 2f) (6 runners)

201 F42101 WOODLANDS BOY 30 (B,D,F,S) (S Moore) R Head 7-11-12 N Williamson 91
202 P53139 SUNSET AGAIN 27 (D,F,S) (J Hooper) P Ritchens 10-11-9 S Fox (5) 78
203 105-304 DIVINE CHANCE 29 (B,S) (R Morris-Adams) N Gaselee 7-11-4 M A Fitzgerald 84
204 29/02F FULL OF OATS 20 (BF) (I MacDonald) Miss H Knight 8-11-4 J Osborne 91
205 2443PF GRUNGE 34 (B,S) (Mrs S Nash) D Murray Smith 7-11-4 D Gallagher –
206 PUF6/PF TERAD 28 (S) (B Kilpatrick) M Pipe 9-11-4 R Dunwoody 89

BETTING: 4-5 Terao, 4-1 Woodlands Boy, 9-2 Full of Oats, 7-1 Divine Chance, 8-1 Sunset Again, 16-1 Grunge.

1994: NO CORRESPONDING RACE

FORM FOCUS

WOODLANDS BOY beat Catchapenny 2l in handicap chase at Fontwell (3m 2f 110yd, soft). SUNSET AGAIN best effort this term beat Zamindh 11¼l in novice handicap chase at Uttoxeter (3m 2f, soft). DIVINE CHANCE 13¾l 4th of 16 to Dolly Oats in novice chase at Warwick (2m 4f 110yd, good to soft). FULL OF OATS 3l 2nd of 16 to Gilga Valu in novice handicap chase at Huntingdon (3m, good to soft) on penultimate start. GRUNGE best recent effort beat and 7l 3rd of 9 to Fortunes Course in handicap hurdle at Southwell (3m 110yd, soft). TERAD fell at 16th behind Sweet Duke in grade II Reynoldstown Chase at Ascot (3m 110yd, soft).
Selection: WOODLANDS BOY

2.50 SOMERFIELD COURT NOVICES HURDLE
(£2,306: 2m 1f 110yd) (11 runners)

301 23- ARFEY 454 (M Myers) T Thomson Jones 6-11-2 A Maguire 76
302 0 BMVOPAXLEADA 79 (F Arthur) D Gressell 5-11-2 Peter Hobbs –
303 FORGE GOLD 588F (R Coombes) H Collingridge 5-11-2 S McNeill –
304 00-3 SUSSEX MAESTRO 58 (F Gray) F Gray 5-11-2 M Crosse –
305 6184 VICEROY RULER 18 (G) (J McBarron) J Jenkins 4-11-0 N Williamson 73
306 3-4/P COXWELL QUICK STEP 51 (M Allsopp) Miss H Knight 6-10-11 J Osborne –
307 LUCYLENCO (Mrs S Marks) J Gifford 6-10-11 L Aspell (7) –
308 0F0 MISS HAGGIS 13 (Mrs M Tidnell) J Gifford 6-10-11 P Hide 79
309 422 SHOOFK 20 (S Deane) S Dow 4-10-8 R Dunwoody 89
310 0 LIFE DANCING 29 (Steam Cottage Partnership 2) N Gaselee 4-10-3 M A Fitzgerald –
311 STORM HEIGHTS 125F (Mrs R Plummer) Mrs A Hamilton-Farley 4-10-3 M Perrett –

BETTING: 9-4 Shoofk, 4-1 Arfey, Viceroy Ruler, 11-2 Sussex Maestro, 8-1 Lucylenco, 10-1 Coxwell Quick Step 14-1 Miss Haggis, 20-1 others.

1994: HOSTILE WITNESS 4-11-0 M Richards (6-11 bar) P Hedger 7 ran

FORM FOCUS

ARFEY 12¾l 3rd of 14 to Mathal in novice hurdle at Taunton (2m 1f, good to soft) December 1993. SUSSEX MAESTRO 35l 3rd of 8 to Reestakoh in novice hurdle at Lingfield (2m 110yd, heavy). VICEROY RULER 19¾l 4th of 8 to Kossac in novice hurdle at Wincanton (2m, heavy) COXWELL QUICK STEP 18¾l 4th of 5 to Jubilee in Mandate Host Rat race at Towcester (2m, heavy) on penultimate start. MISS HAGGIS 28l 9th of 20 to Home From The Hill in novice hurdle at Huntingdon (2m 110yd, soft) SHOOFK 39½l 2nd of 13 to Golden Arrow in novice hurdle at Cheltenham (2m 1f, good to soft) on penultimate start. LIFE DANCING 43l 2m of 15 to Stampin in novice hurdle at Warwick (2m, soft).
Selection: SHOOFK (nap)

3.20 CLIFTONVILLE HANDICAP CHASE
(£3,428: 2m) (6 runners)

401 111-633 SARTORIUS 27 (D,F,S,S) (M Pipkin) T Thomson Jones 9-12-0 M A Fitzgerald 94
402 5-65441 PATS MINSTREL 92 (B,D,F,G,S) (F Yeoh) R Crampton 10-11-6 A Maguire 89
403 /11121 NAMASTE 30 (S,S) (J Culverson) R Head 7-10-13 G Bradley –
404 P5R20- NATHIR 321 (CD,S) (Mrs J Coleman) P Butler 9-10-13 B Powell 85
405 601504 HAWAIIAN YOUTH 18 (G,S) (G Pedlow) R Rowe 7-10-13 G McCourt –
406 50-02PP A FORTIORI 13 (B,S) (B Kilpatrick) M Pipe 7-10-6 M Foster –

Long handicap: A Fortior 9-7

BETTING: 2-1 Pats Minstrel, 5-2 Namaste, 7-2 Sartorius, 7-1 Hawaiian Youth, 8-1 Nathir, 10-1 A Fortior.

1994: AROUND THE HORN 7-12-0 S McNeill (5-5 fav) J Gifford 5 ran

FORM FOCUS

SARTORIUS 12¾l 3rd of 5 to Northern Saddler in handicap chase at Huntingdon (2m 110yd, good to soft). Earlier 5l 3rd of 8 to Kayvee in handicap chase at Ascot (2m, good) PATS MINSTREL beat Soleil Dancer 10l in 5-runner handicap chase at Plumpton (2m, soft).

Cousins homes in on medal ambition

BY JOHN HENNESSY

IF WE are to see the best of Steven Cousins, the British champion, in the world figure skating championships at the National Exhibition Centre in Birmingham this week, the public will need to play its part. Given the support he expects, "a medal would not be beyond the realms of possibility".

Those are his words, over-optimistic, perhaps, in view of his eighth place in the European championships in January, and now taking on allcomers, including the champion, Elvis Stojko, of Canada.

But at least it shows a refreshingly positive outlook. He is, he says, skating better than he has ever done. After a mistake in the short programme in the European championships "I rose from tenth place to sixth in the long, which is a hard thing to do".

Cousins, 22, is even contemplating adding a quadruple jump, a salchow, to his free programme tomorrow night, which would seem to be a still harder thing to do. "If I do it two or three times out of four in practice I'll give it a go," he added. "I'm quite confident that I can do it in competition."

First, though, he must come through the short programme this afternoon. He has had the luck of the draw, placed in the last group, two from the end. Stojko, on the other hand, is in the second group, forced to show his hand before all his principal challengers, with the possible exception of Eric Millot, of France.

Yet here is a man who deserves a providential helping hand. He has "gone through an emotional rollercoaster since I injured an ankle eight weeks ago. As a result I have scaled down my ambitions, so the biggest thing for me is just being here". Stojko, 23, was ready to skate for his honour and his pride. It will be a bonus if he should win again. "I could have given up many times," he declared, "but I didn't. I felt frustration and depression, happiness and anger."

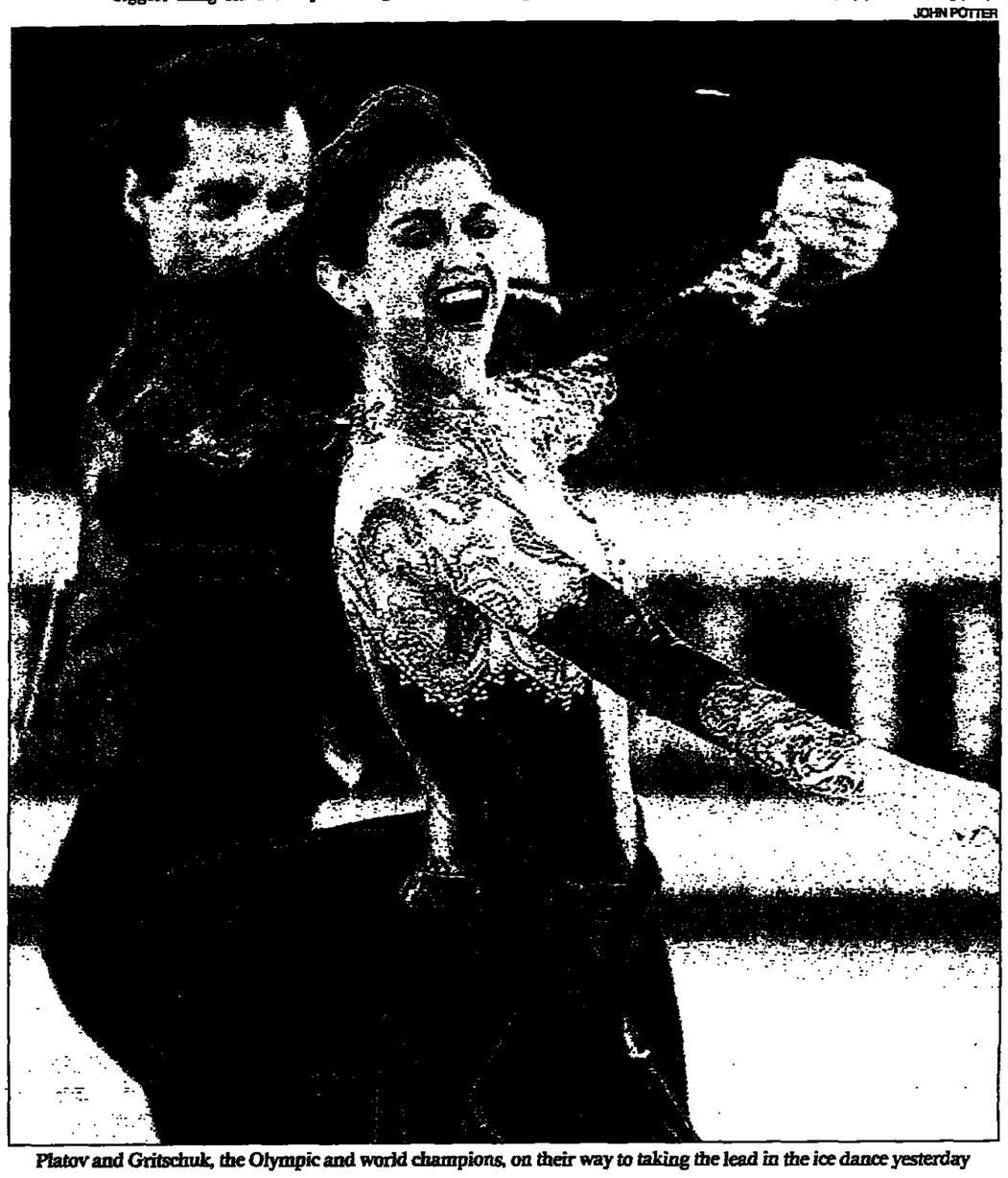
He felt a breakthrough back home 11 days ago. On that day, he explained, "I started doing the triple axel again and was learning to trust my foot and body. I got to the point where I said 'I'm going to do it, no matter what, even if I break my leg, or whatever'. From that point I've got to trust in myself every day."

He talks a good deal, but he also talks a good skate. The championships opened yesterday with the two compulsory dances, which yielded the expected one-two-three. Oksana Gritschuk and Evgeny Platov, the Olympic and world champions from Russia, lead Susanna Rahkamo and Petri Kokko, the European champions from Finland, with Sophie Moniotte and Pascal Lavanchy, of France, third.

RESULTS: Ice dancing (after two compulsory dances): 1, O Gritschuk and E Platov (Russ) 0.4; 2, S Rahkamo and P Kokko (Fin) 0.8; 3, S Moniotte and P Lavanchy (Fr) 1.2; equal 4, S-L Bourne and V Kraatz (Can) and A Krylova and O Ovsiannikov (Russ) 1.8; 6 M Anissina and G Pezerat (Fr) 2.4. British: 19, M Fitzgerald and V Kyle 7.8.

TODAY: Men's short (2.0); pairs free-skating (6.30).

JOHN POTTER



Platov and Gritschuk, the Olympic and world champions, on their way to taking the lead in the ice dance yesterday

Compulsory but not compulsive viewing



Simon Barnes on the disciplines demanding technical expertise but lacking individual appeal

After 33 rumbas, what more could anyone ask for? Why, 33 Argentine tangos, of course, for yesterday was compulsory dance day for the ice dancers at the world figure skating championships in Birmingham.

They all do the same steps; there are three pieces of music, each chosen for its quality of seamless banality, and they rotate endlessly. I shall never forget any of them. Ever.

The skaters cover the same curving, twisting tracks. 33 passages of 132 skates wearing barley sugar patterns into the ice, while the tunes wear tracks of fire into the brain. Don't give *me* any of that "Is-it-art-is-it-sport?" stuff.

Mind you, they used to do three compulsories, not two, and do three circuits of the ice instead of two. Meanwhile, the judges showed that it was possible to quantify the sport with sure and certain objectivity, marking, for example, one couple with 5.2 and 3.9 in the same category, a discrepancy of almost 25 per cent.

What is the point of a compulsory dance? Rather like the function of a necktie, it serves no useful function at all, in any practical sense, but it does add a spurious air of respectability.

Ice dancing has always had to sweat for sporting credibility. A sport in which you win gold medals for performing a suicide pact and flinging yourself into an imaginary volcano needs some kind of contact with real life, or at least sport.

The technical discipline of the compulsories is supposed to do that, to send out the message that this is not pure showbiz. Perish the thought. The compulsories are as technical as dressage and as prone to wide disagreement as to what constitutes excellence.

Dressage is the basis of all classic horsemanship; rumbas and Argentine tangos and the rest are the basis of all the fancy stuff we will get later in the week. It is not merely that the compulsories are not supposed to be entertaining. They are supposed to be dull. They are designed to be bone-achingly tedious.

For if they were not tedious, if the compulsories were part of the usual clap-along, swoon-along showbiz package, someone might get the idea that this was not a sporting event of deadly seriousness. And that would never do. Olympic status is a precious thing. No ballroom dancing at the Olympic Games, is there?

And so out they came: why are ice skaters so keen on tangerine and mauve? The Brit couple, Michelle Fitzgerald and Vincent Kyle, avoided this trap, but Fitzgerald had gone mad for skin-coloured nylon. A pity that the nylon was a different shade to her actual skin. The zipper up the middle of an apparently naked back creates an odd effect, too.

Most of us are as confused about ice dance as ice dance is itself. Last year, they announced it was back to basics: no more suicide pacts, only real dance. So Torvill and Dean (remember them?) gave them real dance and were marked down for it.

Then Torvill and Dean bunged in a load of showbiz tricks and they were marked down for that. The Russian couple stuck to their guns of pure flashiness; rock and roll all the way, and a gold medal to boot.

Confusing. But the Russians themselves. Oksana Gritschuk and Evgeny Platov, were back in action yesterday and, regardless of where one stands in the great debate, they were and are a class act.

Gritschuk combines lightning-fast feet with an expression of extreme animation: the spirit of youth and of dance, carried, by the time the second circuit of the ice was complete, to a kind of sated, slack-jawed ecstasy.

Their free dance programme will include two bits of samba (one a "hot samba") and a rumba. I think we can rely on the pair not to understate the traditional sexual emphasis of these dances.

Lander earns whistle-stop trip

BY DAVID HANDS
RUGBY CORRESPONDENT

THE calm authority displayed by Steve Lander, the Liverpool referee, in his first international appointment at Murrayfield last Saturday has earned him a place as one of England's two officials to the rugby union World Cup this summer. He will be joined by Ed Morrison, of Bristol, who, though he has had no appointment in the five nations' championship this season, remains England's most experienced international panellist.

Lander's progress is the result of the Rugby Football Union's (RFU) policy of promotion according to form, which has brought him and John Pearson (Durham) international recognition. Pearson handled France v Wales in January and Lander Scotland v Wales at the weekend.

All five nations have used the championship to broaden the base of selection for the World Cup. Of the established officials, only Derek Bevan (Wales) — now the world's most experienced referee — has received an appointment this season, so that such relative newcomers as David McHugh (Ireland), Didier Mené (France) and Clayton Thomas (Wales) could extend their experience.

This has not won the universal approval of the players, but, broadly speaking, the results, and the quality of the games, have justified the policy. Moreover, Lander, 37 and head of the creative arts and technology faculty at Birkenhead VIth Form College, looked as though he enjoyed the game on Saturday.

All referees will be briefed in Cape Town before the World Cup by Tom Doocey, the former New Zealand referee who heads the assessment panel. A strict policy laid down before the 1991 tournament resulted, initially, in a plethora of penalties, but came to contribute substantially to a successful event.

Leicester are to spend £1.9 million on a new stand at the Welford Road end of their ground, the first stage of a ground development scheme designed to bring the capacity to 20,000. Work will begin on April 18, after their league meeting with Bath, and is due to finish by September 15.

The stand will incorporate 3,000 seats and 24 hospitality boxes and will be financed partly by a debenture issue. Leicester, whose ground is the largest in the country after Twickenham, will also plough their three-year allocation of £300,000 from the RFU's television contract with Sky Sports into the project and hope to attract grant aid.

Leicester have only one player, Steve Hackney, in the much-changed England Emerging Players team to meet Northern Transvaal at Bristol this evening. Injuries have affected the midfield, which will be composed of Guy Gregory (Wasps), Gareth Stocks (Sale) and Nick Beal (Northampton), while Paul Holford, of Gloucester, plays on the wing. The touring side's third success (out of four) came against Treorchy on Monday, by 25-5.

Ian Hunter, the Northampton and England full back, will play for East Midlands in the annual Mobbs memorial match against the Barbarians at Franklin's Gardens. Terry Kingston (Ireland) and Iain Morrison (Scotland) have withdrawn from the Barbarians' team and are replaced by two Irishmen, the uncapped Shane Byrne (Blackrock College), at hooker, and Anthony Foley, the Shannon flanker.

Fixture clash could sound alarm bells

THE debate over the possible influx of Scottish players to English league rugby union may come to a head sooner than next season (David Hands writes). Already, five leading Scots have signed provisional registration forms, for West Hartlepool and Northampton, provoking the England team management to call for a limit on "other nationals" appearing in the championship.

However, those Scots already playing for West Hartlepool may affect positions this season. Scotland meet Romania on April 22, the day when West should travel to Bristol for their penultimate league game and the CIS county championship final is scheduled to be played for Twickenham. That combination of fixtures could allow West to postpone their game.

West have two Scots in the national squad, Rob Wainwright and Derrick Patterson. They have also surrendered Kevin Westgarth to Northumberland, who, should they beat Gloucestershire in the semi-final on Saturday, will be at Twickenham. If West lose three players to representative calls, they are entitled to a postponement.

In that event, they would have to play a midweek match or ask the Rugby Football Union to extend the league season to May 6, the date of the Pilkington Cup Final. The relegation issue, which also affects Harlequins and Northampton, is far from clear and heralds the possibility of greater problems to come if Gregor Townsend takes up his option at Northampton or Doddie Weir and Shade Munro cross the border to West.

Talbot refuses new position

BY CRAIG LORD

DON TALBOT, the head of swimming coaching in Australia, has turned down the chance to become Great Britain's first national swimming performance director. An official statement released yesterday expressed the Amateur Swimming Federation's disappointment that Talbot, 61, would not accept the position because of "personal problems". No other details were given.

Talbot had been pursued for two years and courted for six months to take up the position, which is believed to carry an annual remuneration of more than £60,000 as part of a support package from the Sports Council.

However, speaking from his home on the Gold Coast, Talbot described that view as simplistic, adding that a backroom suggestion from the federation that British media reports had played a crucial role in his decision was "just plain silly". He said that the federation "should have been more upfront with the media".

He added: "I certainly would have handled it [media relations] all differently. The federation should have disclosed things. These issues are sensitive, but if you treat the media with respect, well, you get a different result."

Talbot confirmed that there was "no one reason" for his decision. He said that he was wondering whether he had leapt the right way, there being many "valid reasons to come to Britain, and others to stay in Australia".

If there had been a stumbling block, it appears to have been during final negotiations with the federation at the World Cup in Sheffield last month. Talbot, a strong personality who wanted virtual autonomy over elite swimming, had sought financial opt-out clauses.

His decision is a setback for the Sports Council and the swimming federation, which stated yesterday that it was "initiating an immediate worldwide recruitment process to find a suitable candidate". The job would be advertised, though personal approaches would also be made. Names in the frame include Bill Sweetnam, also of Australia, and Deryk Snelling, a Yorkshireman who coaches in Canada. Sources in Australia said that Talbot's negotiations with Britain had helped to strengthen his position at home.

SNOW REPORTS

	Depth (cm) L	U	Conditions Piste	Off/p	Runs to resort	Weather (5pm)	°C	Last snow
AUSTRIA								
Mayrhofen	0	100	good	powder	good	fair	-9	7/3
	(Excellent conditions at all levels; all lifts open)							
Obergurgl	60	245	good	powder	good	fine	-7	6/3
	(Superb skiing both on and off piste; 21 of 22 lifts open)							
Saalbach	50	120	good	powder	good	snow	3	6/3
	(Excellent off-piste skiing; 55 of 60 lifts open)							
Schladming	40	130	good	powder	good	fair	5	7/3
	(Fresh snowfall improving conditions; all 75 lifts open)							
FRANCE								
Alpe d'Huez	240	460	good	powder	good	fine	0	8/3
	(Deep, light, dry powder — astounding; 75 of 82 lifts open)							
Les Arcs	210	445	good	powder	good	fair	-4	5/3
	(Ideal snow conditions in all areas; 69 of 79 lifts open)							
Megève	150	360	good	powder	good	fine	-2	7/3
	(Light and fluffy powder off piste; 39 of 41 lifts open)							
Tignes	245	320	good	powder	good	fine	-10	6/3
	(Ideal skiing in sunny, cold conditions)							
ITALY								
Cervinia	120	400	good	powder	good	sun	-4	8/3
	(High winds in morning, calmer afternoon; superb skiing)							
SWITZERLAND								
Arosa	110	140	good	powder	good	fine	-3	7/3
	(Some south-facing slopes heavy, otherwise excellent)							
Mürren	140	230	good	powder	good	fair	-5	6/3
	(Lower temperatures aiding already excellent conditions)							
Verbier	70	220	good	powder	good	fine	-11	6/3
	(Outstanding skiing conditions; all 39 lifts open)							

Source: Ski Club of Great Britain. L - lower slopes; U - upper; art - artificial.

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RADIO CHOICE

Going up in the world

Gosling on Main Street. *Radio 4 FM, 10.00am.*

Ray Gosling's gift as a radio reporter is that of knowing how to shrink the globe. On the 54th floor of the Woolworth Building in Manhattan — a monumental memorial to the founder of the world's best-known chainstore — he tells himself that all this was paid for, back home, by his Mum buying knitting needles from the local Woolworth's. The skyscraper also enshrines the principles of war enunciated by Clausewitz, the Prussian military strategist: "Acquire power, consolidate power, expand to retain greater power." Napoleon adopted the principles and Woolworth, in turn, adapted them to fit his own war — the one for the lion's share of the retail trade. Hence the Napoleon room in the Woolworth Building. Hence, too, the French Imperial style of the building's interior architecture.

The Chronicles of Clovis. *Radio 4, 12.25pm.*

Some of the characters in this dramatisation by Justin Green of the Saki story are reminiscent of Oscar Wilde's. The epigrams are not as sparkling as Wilde's, but they are polished and deftly delivered. The period is Edwardian, and the chronicles are the memoirs of the manipulative Clovis, played with scalpel-like insouciance by Mark Tandy. In episode one, he effortlessly turns dross into gold. These Saki dramatisations have starry casts which include Alison Steadman, Stephanie Cole, Prunella Scales, John Sessions and Angela Thorne.

Peter Davalle

RADIO 1

FM Stereo. 4.00am Clive Warren 6.30 Steve Wright 9.00 Simon Mayo 12.00 Lisa L'Anson, incl at 12.30-12.45pm Newsbeat; and at 1.15 The Net 2.00 Nicky Campbell 4.00 Mark Goodier incl at 5.30-5.45 Newsbeat 7.00 Evening Session 9.00 Bits from Last Week's Radio 10.00 Mark Radcliffe Midnight Lynn Parsons

RADIO 2

International Women's Day
FM Stereo. 6.00am Sarah Kennedy 6.15 Pause for Thought 7.30 Wake Up to Wogan 9.15 Pause for Thought 9.30 Ken Bruce 11.30 Jimmy Young 2.00pm Fiona Armstrong 3.30 Ed Stewart 5.05 John Dunn 7.00 Nothing Like a Dame! quiz 7.30 Jim Lloyd with Folk on 2 8.00 Womantalk 8.30 A Tight Squeeze 9.00 Black Voices 9.30 Nigel Ogden 10.30 The Jamesons 12.05am Steve Madden 3.00 Alex Lester

RADIO 5 LIVE

5.00am Morning Reports, incl at 5.45 Wake Up to Money 6.00 The Breakfast Programme incl at 6.55 and 7.55 Racing Preview 8.35 The Magazine incl at 10.35 Euronews; 11.15 Natural History 12.00 Midday with Mair, including at 12.34pm Liz Barclay with Moneycheck 2.05 Ruscoe on Five, with Sybil Ruscoe 4.00 John Inverdale Nationwide 7.00 News Extra, incl at 7.20 sport 7.35 Trevor Brooking's Football Night 10.05 News Talk 11.00 Night Extra, incl at 11.45 The Financial World Tonight 12.05am After Hours, with Carole Malone 2.05 Up All Night, with Rhod Sharp

TALK RADIO

6.00am Maurice Dee and Carol McGiffin 10.00 Scott Chisholm 1.00pm Anna Raeburn 3.00 Tommy Boyd 7.00 Samantha Meah and Sean Bolger 10.00 Casser the Geezer 1.00am Wild Al Kelly

WORLD SERVICE

All times in GMT 4.30am BBC English 4.45 Fruhmagazin 5.00 Newshour 6.00 Morgenmagazin 6.30 Europe Today 7.00 News 7.15 Manon 7.30 World of Music 8.00 News 8.10 Faith 8.15 Versions 8.30 Megamix 9.00 News 9.05 Business 9.15 Country Style 9.30 Contemporaries of Christ 9.45 Sport 10.00 News 10.01 Omnibus 10.30 Jazz 11.00 Newsdesk 11.30 BBC English 11.45 Mittagsmagazin 12.00 News 12.10pm Faith 12.15 Ideas 12.35 What Is ...? 12.45 Sport 1.00 News 2.05 Outlook 2.30 *Manon* 2.45 Books 3.00 News 3.15 Our Own Correspondent 3.30 Quote Unquote 4.00 News 4.15 BBC English 4.30 Aktuell 5.00 News 5.05 Business Report 5.15 BBC English 6.00 Newsdesk 6.30 Aktuell 7.00 News 7.05 Outlook 7.30 Omnibus 8.00 News 8.10 Faith 8.15 World Today 8.30 Europe Today 9.00 Newshour 10.00 News 10.05 Business Report 10.15 Sport 11.00 Newsdesk 11.30 Multitrack 12.00 News 12.15am Greenfield 1.00 News 1.05: Outlook 1.30 Waveguide 1.40 Book Choice 1.45 Farming 2.00 News 2.30 Sport 3.00 News 3.15 Sport 3.30 Assignment 4.00 News

CLASSIC FM

6.00am Nick Bailey 9.00 Robert Booth 12.00 Susannah Simons 2.00pm Lunchtime Concerto 3.00 Jamie Crick 6.00 Classic Reports 7.00 Gardening (r) 8.00 Evening Concert: Telemann (Overture-Suite in C, Hamburger Ebb und Fluth); Susato (Rounds, Danseye); Bach (Orchestral Suite No 2); Gabrieli (Sacrae Symphoniae No 2) 10.00 Michael Mappin 1.00am André Leon

VIRGIN

6.00am Russ 'n' Jono 9.00 Richard Skinner 12.00 Graham Dene 4.00pm Wendy Lloyd 7.00 Paul Coyte 11.00 Nick Abbot 2.00-6.00am Janey Lee Grace

RADIO 3

6.30am Open University: Shakespeare's History Plays
6.55 Weather
7.00 On Air: Biber (Partita No 6 in D, Harmonia artificiosa-ariosa); Billy Mayerl (Three Dances in Syncopation, Op 73); 7.32 Haydn (String Quartet in D, Op 71 No 2); 8.05 Wagner (Overture: Der Fliegende Holländer); Strauss (Frühlingsfeier, Op 56 No 5); Beethoven (Symphony No 5 in C minor)
9.00 **Composers of the Week:** Swedish Romantics. Amanda Maier-Rontgen (Violin Sonata in B minor); Elfrida Andree (Lord have mercy); Swedish Mass No 1); Valborg Aulin (String Quartet in F)
10.00 **Midweek Choice:** José Carreras sings some of Falla's *Seven Popular Spanish Songs* 10.05 Handel (Harp Concerto in B flat, Op 4 No 6); Rodrigo (Fantasia para un gentilhombre); Arne (Organ Concerto No 3 in A); Hindemith (Oboe Sonata); Weber (Und ob die Wolke, Der Freischütz); Rachmaninov (Rhapsody on a Theme of Paganini); Beethoven (String Quartet in B flat, Op 130, Finale)
12.00 **The BBC Orchestras:** BBC Scottish Symphony Orchestra (r)
1.00pm **Concert Hall:** Schubert (Adagio and Rondo Concertante); Dvořák (Piano Quintet in A, Op 81)
2.00 **Schools:** Together 2.20 Time and Tune: Music Course 2 — Dig It 2.40 Drama Workshop
3.00 **Record Review:** Shostakovich's Symphony No 15 (r)
4.00 **Choral Evensong,** live from Manchester Cathedral
5.00 **The Music Machine:** Writing for brass
5.15 **In Tune:** With Natalie Wheen. Monteverdi (Zefiro torna); Mozart (Fantasia in D minor); 6.40 Prokofiev (Overture on Hebrew Themes)
7.30 **Towards the Millennium:** Live from Symphony Hall, Birmingham. Felicity Lott, soprano; City of Birmingham Symphony Orchestra under Simon Rattle. Copland (Appalachian Spring); Strauss (Capriccio, final scene); 8.15 The Christian Agnostic: Stephen Johnson traces conflicting ideas of religious faith and doubt in Vaughan Williams's Fifth and Sixth Symphonies (r); 8.35 Vaughan Williams (Symphony No 5)
9.30 **Music at War:** Stephen Johnson looks at music written in Britain during the Second World War (3/5)
9.50 **Music, Men and Manners:** John Moffat reads a final selection of excerpts from the journals of Charles Burney, the 18th-century music historian
10.45 **Night Waves:** Lisa Jardine reports on Rabindranath Tagore, the first Asian writer to win a Nobel prize
11.30-12.30am **Ensemble:** Jill Anderson presents a programme of rarely heard chamber music performed by the Fibonacci Sequence
1.00-2.40 **Night School:** Triple Bill — *Comfort Herself*: Part 3 1.30 Poetry of Passion 2.00 Dance Resource for PE: City Life 1

RADIO 4

5.55am Shipping Forecast 6.00 News Briefing; Weather 6.10 Farming Today 6.25 Prayer for the Day, with the Very Rev Gilleasbuig Macmillan 6.30 Today incl 7.25, 8.25 Sport 7.45 Thought for the Day 8.40 Yesterday in Parliament 8.58 Weather
9.00 **News** 9.05 **Midweek:** Presented by Esther Rantzen with guest Frank Warren
10.00-10.30 **News; Gosling on Main Street (FM only):** See Choice
10.00 **Daily Service (LW only)**
10.15 **Something Understood (LW only):** A spiritual anthology
10.30 **Woman's Hour:** Jan Morris tells Jenni Murray why it is time we recognised the real legacy of the British Empire
11.30 **Gardeners' Question Time** Eric Robson and his panel of horticultural experts take questions from members of the Heacham Gardeners' Association (r)
12.00 **News; You and Yours:** With Tasneem Siddiqi
12.25pm **The Chronicles of Clovis:** See Choice 12.55 Weather
1.00 **The World at One:** With Nick Clarke
1.40 **The Archers** (r) 1.55 Shipping Forecast
2.00 **News; The Casebook of Sherlock Holmes:** The Lion's Mane. A violent death tempts Holmes out of retirement
2.45 **Destination America:** Christopher Cook talks to individuals who emigrated to America in the early part of the century via Ellis Island, the immigration station in New York's harbour
3.00 **News; The Afternoon Shift**
4.00 **News** 4.05 **Kaleidoscope:** Barry Levinson talks about his film, *Disclosure*
4.45 **Short Story: Pie in the Sky.** Nabil Shaban reads Turan Ali's story
5.00 **PM** 5.50 Shipping Forecast 5.55 Weather
6.00 **Six O'Clock News**
6.30 **Counterpoint:** First semi-final of the music quiz (r)
7.00 **News** 7.05 **The Archers**
7.20 **The Art of Travel:** Foreign correspondent Georgie Anne Geyer retraces the journey she made two years ago along the ancient Silk Road
7.45 **Medicine Now** (r)
8.15 **Fast Forward:** From Lamarckism to Mutating Robots. Professor John Maynard Smith, who is in his seventies, discusses progress in the understanding of evolution with Dr David Cliffe, a champion of the new computerised artificial form of evolution
8.45 **Opera House:** The Mariinsky Theatre in St Petersburg, home of the Kirov Opera and Ballet
9.30 **Kaleidoscope** (r) 9.59 Weather
10.00 **The World Tonight**
10.45 **Book at Bedtime: Archy and Mehitabel,** by Don Marquis (3/8)
11.00 **Listen to the Cinema!** (r)
11.30-12.00 **Jeremy Hardy Speaks to the Nation (FM only):** How to Be a Father — Part 2 (r)
11.30 **Today in Parliament (LW only)**
12.00-12.43am **News** incl 12.27 Weather 12.33 Shipping 12.43 As World Service (LW)

RADIO 1: FM 97.6-99.8. RADIO 2: FM-88-90.2. RADIO 3: FM-90.2-92.4. RADIO 4: 198kHz/1515m; FM-92.4-94.6; LW 198. RADIO 5: 693kHz/433m; 909kHz/330m. LONDON RADIO: 1152kHz/261m; FM 97.3. CAPITAL: 1548kHz/194m; FM-95.8. GLR: FM 94.9; WORLD SERVICE: MW 648kHz/463m. CLASSIC FM: FM-100-102. VIRGIN: MW-1215, 1197, 1242 kHz. TALK RADIO: MW 1089, 1053kHz. Listings compiled by Linda Galloway and Sarah Harding

We're pigging out with Clive and Jonathan

REVIEW



Lynne Truss

In East Berlin, a man walks into a bar, orders the "special", and finds on his plate a Vesuvius of food including an undisguised section of pig's leg, of a raw pink hue, looking as if it could hop to the vertical at any moment and dance a pirouette on the table. This unlovely but popular dish is the "Eisbein" and alas, it comes without instructions.

Clive James, in last night's **Postcard from Berlin** (BBC1) gamely stuck his nose under the open skin of the Eisbein and snuffled at the pink wobbly flesh, which shows he is a better man than I am. "It gave off the aroma of a losing football team's laundry basket," he said, "But the actual *taste . . . didn't* live up to the smell." He left most of the foot behind. Perhaps he remembered the warning he'd heard — that East Berliners eat so much Eisbein they resemble it. Nobody wants to look like a trotter, not even in the interests of a peaktime laugh.

But are you what you eat? That was the big question last night, with the aggressively rotund Jonathan Meades on Channel 4 metaphorically jabbing a steaming pig's foot into the faces of vegetarians and yelling, "What's your *problem*?". This was **J'Accuse** — an arts slot originally conceived for cultural iconoclasts, but now apparently turning into an up-market *Video Box*. Meades was consumed with contempt for the veggie thought police: these were people, he implied, who on a weekend break to Berlin would get more aerated over the pork butchers than the monuments to the Holocaust. He hates them for making dreary food (he spat it out, hilariously); he hates them for their self-righteous denial; but most of all he hates them for gaining ground.

Meades sat amid a bacchanalian heap of fruit and veg worthy of Peter Greenaway, and you half expected a roasted human body (Clive James's, possibly) to be brought to him on an enormous platter. "For God's sake lighten up!" he would snort, as he started to snuffle under the skin. Was his diet doing him good? Well, let's just say the British Heart Foundation will have received a mysterious boost in donations overnight. Auberon Waugh made a powerful case for not desiring an extreme long life, in any case. When you look at the long life currently on offer, he said, the last ten years consists in lying on racks and being turned occasionally, "like wet hay".

This all made you wonder what had been fed to Ahmed, the little boy featured in **The Knowledge** (BBC2). Fish give you brains, apparently; although this benevolent process has never been clear to me. The first programme was sub-titled "Too Clever By Half", and for once, the title was not a gimmick. If Ahmed, at six and a half, had an IQ of 100, he'd be fine and dandy. But his score is 150, and he is therefore too clever by half, literally.

His mother teaches him at home in a south London tower block; he is a nice child who enjoys learning. But his mother is reaching her limit and there's nowhere for Ahmed to go. This interesting programme was therefore not a celebration of cleverness; Ahmed's lovely intellect was more like an Eisbein on a plate: once you've got it, what can you do with it?

Asked a mathematical problem about men digging holes, Ahmed's eyes lit up. "This is inverse proportion, isn't it?" he said, and the educational assessor clapped his hands with pleasure. At the Science Museum with his mother, Ahmed watched a ping-pong ball swirl down a funnel, representing a black hole. "It gets quicker as it gets nearer!" he exclaimed, "This is *interesting*."

The usual idea of the Infant Phenomenon in big glasses held together with sticking plaster was swept aside. Ahmed was a sweet, polite, well-adjusted child — and this, ironically, was the problem. Under the provisions of the 1993 Education Act, a child who is gifted is not automatically included under "special needs". Only if he is also emotionally disturbed will he get some help — an official nonsense which demonstrates the limits of too-clever cleverness rather well.

Back at Clive James, the innocent abroad just can't help showing his metropolitan sophistication, despite the funny hats and goofy outfits he gamely adopts; despite the stunt car last night (a rusting Trabant), which he drove around in a farcical, kangaroo manner, its thick, white exhaust plume "visible from space". No, the true nature of the man insists on showing through: and at a bohemian party in Berlin, he peeled himself from an eye-glazing conversation by saying brightly, "Hey, let's talk again a little bit later". (Only very important people learn to speak like that.)

Lastly, BBC1's tribute to Larry Grayson was entitled **Shut That Door** — again the name seemed obvious, and again it held rather more meaning. Grayson famously made his name late in life, and the great delight of this posthumous compilation was watching him enjoy it. A Kenneth Tynan crossed with the Mad Hatter, he tipped his sly profile endlessly, nose-up in the *Generation Game* lights, soaking the adoration.

Recently a mean critic denied Kenneth Williams the accolade "national treasure", on the grounds that in Japan a national treasure is a genius, not a jumped-up laughs-man with an inadequate personal life. Well, nuts to that. Our dead comics deserve every bouquet they can get. "He's anybody's for a doughnut," said the magnificent Grayson, on stage in *The Good Old Days*, glancing at the stalls. "You suffer with it, don't you? I can tell by the way you're sitting."

BBC1

6.00 Business Breakfast (14750)

7.00 BBC Breakfast News (95337798)

9.05 Kilroy. Robert Kilroy-Silk chairs a studio discussion on a topical subject (5488069)

10.00 News (Ceefax), regional news and weather (7866750) **10.05 EastEnders — The Early Days** (r). (Ceefax) (8873953) **10.35 Good Morning with Anne and Nick**. Weekday magazine (s) (7125717)

12.00 News (Ceefax) and weather (1631408) **12.05 Pebble Mill** (s) (7490021) **12.55 Regional News** and weather (15030427)

1.00 One O'Clock News (Ceefax) and weather (19156) **1.30 Neighbours**. (Ceefax) (s) (77777601)

1.50 Going for Gold. Henry Kelly asks the general knowledge questions (s) (77788717) **2.15 Alias Smith and Jones**. Light-hearted western adventures starring Pete Duel and Ben Murphy (r) (3160717)

3.05 Glynn Christian's Entertaining Microwave. Three-course dinners from a microwave (s) (5834663) **3.20 Brilliant Gardens**. A visit to Glasgow Botanic Gardens (6074953)

3.30 Barney Bear Double-Bill (2148243) **3.45 Sick as a Parrot** (s) (2143798) **4.00 Jackanory**. Kathy Burke with the story of *The Twits* (s) (4459069) **4.10 Potsworth and Co** (r) (6405427) **4.35 The Really Wild Show**. Chris Packham, Michaela Strachan and Howie Watkins travel to the Galapagos Islands. (Ceefax) (s) (1769311)

5.00 Newsround (2464595) **5.05 The Biz**. Drama serial about the pupils of a school of dance and drama. (Ceefax) (s) (6260243)

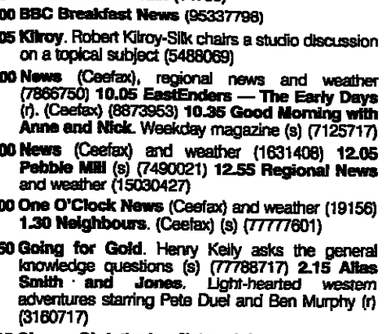
5.35 Neighbours (r). (Ceefax) (s) (940494). **Northern Ireland:** Inside Ulster

6.00 Six O'Clock News (Ceefax) and weather (595)

6.30 Regional news magazines (175). **Northern Ireland:** Neighbours

7.00 This Is Your Life. Michael Aspel surprises another unsuspecting worthy. (Ceefax) (s) (7682)

7.30 Here and Now. Current affairs magazine (359)



Esther Rantzen with golden deeds (8.00pm)

8.00 Hearts of Gold. (Ceefax) (s) (393934)

8.50 Points of View. (Ceefax) (s) (822311)

9.00 Nine O'Clock News (Ceefax) and weather (6175)

9.30 Harry. Series about a Darlington news agency starring Michael Elphick as an investigative reporter. (Ceefax) (s) (591156)

10.20 Sportsnight presented by Desmond Lynam. The line-up includes highlights of tonight's FA Carling Premiership match between Blackburn Rovers and Arsenal and a preview of this weekend's WBO World Heavyweight championship bout between Herbie Hide and Riddick Bowe (s) (805427)

12.00 The Stand Up Show. Comedy introduced by Barry Cryer (s) (77199)

12.30am FILM: Murder COD (1990) starring William Devane and Patrick Duffy. A thriller about a killer who uses state-of-the-art surveillance equipment to choose his next victim. Directed by Alan Metzger. (Ceefax) (877373) **2.05 Weather** (7566915)

BBC2

6.20 Open University: Cognitive Development (7347445) **6.45** Language and Literature (2193330) **7.10** Humanism and Painting (5483576) **7.35** Humanity and the Scaffold (5086601) **8.00 Breakfast News**. (Ceefax and signing) (6750311) **8.15 Westminster On-Line** (s) (4248934)

9.00 Daytime on Two: Quinze Minutes (5529576) **9.15** Focus (7162359) **9.25** Study Ireland (5522663) **9.45** Storytime (5604137) **10.00** Playdays (8891359) **10.25** Homes Across Europe (1921243) **10.40** Around Scotland (4146779). **Northern Ireland:** Ulster in Focus **11.00** Cats' Eyes (6579779) **11.15** Ghostwriter (159798) **11.45** Developing World (9373885) **12.10** Geography Programme (5143866) **12.30** Working Lunch (61972) **1.00** German Collection (57096137) **1.25** Zig Zag (87790779) **1.45** You and Me (25363427) **2.00** Greedysaurus Gang (65912427) **2.05** Spider (65911798)

2.10 Songs of Praise (r). (Ceefax) (s) (9702755) **2.45 Treasures of the Trust**. The Kingston Lacy estate in Dorset and Powys castle in Wales (r) (8470048)

3.00 News (Ceefax) and weather followed by **Westminster with Nick Ross** (4366243) **3.50 News** (Ceefax), regional news and weather (8055137) **4.00 Today's the Day** (s) (208) **4.30 Ready, Steady, Cook** (s) (972)

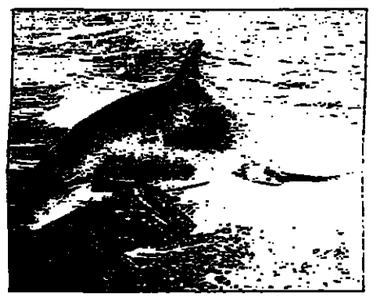
5.00 The Oprah Winfrey Show (s) (3141798)

5.40 World Figure Skating Championships from the National Exhibition Centre, Birmingham (522798)

6.15 Star Trek — The Next Generation. Science-fiction adventure. (Ceefax) (s) (940205)

7.00 The World at War. (Ceefax) (171408)

7.50 World Figure Skating Championships (973224)



Secrets of the dolphin revealed (8.00pm)

8.00 Magic Animals. A look at dolphins. (Ceefax) (s) (4972)

8.30 Modern Times: Harley Street. (Ceefax) (s) (106363)

9.20 World Figure Skating Championships introduced by Sue Barker (6374601)

10.30 Newsnight. (Ceefax) (155798)

11.15 The Late Show. Arts and media magazine (s) (148214) **11.55 Weather** (473156)

12.00 Forecasting the Economy (4557557)

12.25am The Enlightenment: Reason and Progress (9331977) **12.50 The Record**. The day in Parliament (s) (3018606). Ends at **1.15 2.00-3.40 Night School: Modern Languages** (339170)

4.00-4.15 BBC Select: Benefits Agency Today (13407354)

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CHOICE



Harley Street patient Bonnie Bales (BBC2, 8.30pm)

Modern Times: Harley Street
BBC2, 8.30pm

Charles Stewart and Malcolm Hirst, the team responsible for a memorable series about Lewisham council, turn their attention to a bastion of private medicine. It is easy to condemn a system in which vain women are prepared to pay £4,500 for a facelift and specialists add lashings of jam to their National Health Service bread and butter. But Stewart and Hirst are not in the business of making judgments. They present the evidence and leave the opinions to us. At the heart of their film is a contentious new treatment for breast cancer known as high-dose chemotherapy. It is both hideously expensive (£60,000) and unproven. But with the disease affecting one British woman in 11, there is no shortage of takers.

Dispatches
Channel 4, 9.00pm

The largest single ship to be lost in British maritime history was the *Derbyshire*, a bulk carrier which sank 14 years ago in the South China Seas. All 44 crew members died. The official report suggested that the ship had been "overwhelmed by the forces of nature" during a typhoon. But families of the victims, and maritime safety experts, have long campaigned for a new inquiry. They blame the tragedy on design flaws and claim that the discovery of part of the wreck of the ship has strengthened their case. The ITN team of Rob White and Rory MacLean has been following the story for four years. Their film reveals that doubts about the *Derbyshire*'s design go back to the 1970s when it and similar ships were being built on Teesside.

Hearts of Gold
BBC1, 8.00pm

Prepare to welcome more unsung heroes who, thanks to Esther Rantzen, are unsung no longer. As usual the recipients of the *Hearts of Gold* award are beyond criticism. There is a man who has given generations of rootless south London youngsters a purpose by training them as sea cadets. We salute a nurse who has spent three years among Romania's young Aids victims. Applause is rightly in order for a seven-year-old who helped to save her mother's life. But the show's format, which involves luring these brave and worthy people into the studio under false pretences and in showbusiness schmaltz, is something else. Not for nothing are Rantzen's latest cohorts a gameshow host, Carol Smillie, and a comic, Mickey Hutton.

The World At War: Remember
BBC 2, 7.00pm

Jeremy Isaacs decided to end his vast television history of the Second World War by leaving aside the great figures and the decisive engagements and evoking the experience of conflict through ordinary fighting men. It made a moving documentary more than 20 years ago and it still does. As we brace ourselves for an avalanche of end-of-war commemorations in the approach to VE-Day, it will be worth checking whether any of them come close to this simple, affecting film. Memories of the fear, the fun and the camaraderie of battle are intercut with images of war's lasting impact, in the Armistice Day service at the Cenotaph, the annual services reunions and the rows of gravestones in war cemeteries. **Peter Waymark**

CARLTON

6.00am GMTV (7839205)

9.25 Chain Letters (s) (3274137) **9.55 London Today** (Teletext) and weather (8878408)

10.00 The Time . . . the Place. John Stapleton presides over a studio audience as they discuss a topical issue (s) (7903088)

10.35 This Morning. Weekday family magazine presented by Richard Madeley and Judy Finnigan (26560359) **12.20pm London Today** (Teletext) and weather (1620392)

12.30 ITN News (Teletext) and weather (2109175)

12.55 Coronation Street (r). (Teletext) (2184866) **1.25 Home and Away** (Teletext) (57091682)

1.55 Carlton Woman (s) (35961175) **2.25 A Country Practice** (s) (74738156) **2.50 Blue Heelers**. A tragic blunder occurs during the funeral of a man killed in a car crash (7249330)

3.20 ITN News headlines (Teletext) (6085069) **3.25 London Today** (Teletext) and weather (6077040)

3.30 Alphabet Castle (r) (s) (2159359) **3.40 Wizadora** (r) (s) (8053779) **3.50 A Pup Named Scooby Doo** (r) (8398345) **4.15 Animaniacs** (Teletext) (s) (6499866) **4.40 The Tomorrow People** (Teletext) (9023953)

5.10 After 5 (Teletext) (6254682)

5.40 ITN Early Evening News (Teletext) and weather (327408)

5.55 Your Shout. Members of the public air their views (897750)

6.00 Home and Away (r). (Teletext) (663)

6.30 London Tonight (Teletext) (243)

7.00 Wish You Were Here . . . ? Judith Chalmers attends the 40th Galway International Oyster Festival; John Carter reports from Innsbruck, the cultural capital of the Austrian Tyrol; and Martin Roberts travels to Australia, starting in Sydney before exploring Brisbane (Teletext) (s) (2750)



Johnny Briggs and Amanda Barrie (7.30pm)

7.30 Coronation Street. Alma surprises Mike with a new purchase (Teletext) (427)

8.00 The Match — Live: Coca-Cola Cup Semi-Final. Coverage of the match between Crystal Palace and Liverpool (4601) **NB:** In the event of extra time/penalties subsequent programmes may run late

10.00 News at Ten (Teletext) and weather (17663)

10.30 London Tonight (Teletext) and weather (803953)

10.40 FILM: Disorganised Crime (1989) starring Hoyt Axton and Corbin Bernsen. A criminal contacts four other crooks to execute the perfect heist, but he is arrested, leaving the others to fend for themselves. Directed by Jim Kouf (12815311)

12.40am Alien Nation (s) (1128354)

1.35 Hollywood Report (s) (2292557)

2.05 The Beat with Gary Crowley (s) (6987712)

3.00 The Album Show featuring Bruce Springsteen (s) (9794422)

4.05 Shift (2363880)

4.55 The Time . . . the Place (r) (s) (7880335)

5.30 ITN Morning News (63996). Ends at **6.00**

CHANNEL 4

6.35 Sandokan (r) (2104446)

7.00 The Big Breakfast (70309)

9.00 You Bet Your Life (r) (s) (27040)

9.30 Schools: Living and Growing (5572408) **9.46** Talk, Write and Read **10.02** Stage Two Science (5595369) **10.18** The Jacobites (6138243) **10.40** Living with Technology (6117750) **10.55** Film and Video Showcase (6384866) **11.05** Encyclopaedia Galactica (6936446) **11.15** The Music Show (6587798) **11.30** Rat-a-Tat-Tat (4102175) **11.45** First Edition (4190330)

12.00 House To House (14576)

12.30 Sesame Street. The guest is Blair Underwood (21243) **1.30 Take 5** featuring *Mister Man, Tales From the Riverbank, Natalie, Ivor the Engine* and *Joggy Bear* (55311)

2.00 FILM: The Pharmacist (1933, b/w). W.C. Fields stars in this short about a small-town chemist with a frightful family. Directed by Arthur Ripley (74717663)

2.25 FILM: FDR: The Last Year (1980). The second and final part of the biopic of the last year in Franklin Delano Roosevelt's life. Starring Jason Robards. Directed by Anthony Page. (Teletext) (626822)

4.00 Journeyman. Clive Gunnell visits Shaftesbury in Dorset (s) (156)

4.30 Countdown. (Teletext) (s) (840)

5.00 Ricki Lake. The guests are a young man and his shy girlfriend who are married before the show is over. (Teletext) (s) (8199885)

5.50 Terrytoons. Classic cartoons (810601)

6.00 All American Girl. Sit-com. (Teletext) (s) (205)

6.30 Boy Meets World (Teletext) (s) (885)

7.00 Channel 4 News (Teletext) and weather (166576)

7.50 The Slot (968392)

8.00 Brookside. (Teletext) (s) (9040)



Gaby Roslin presents travel diaries (8.30pm)

8.30 The Real Holiday Show. Reports from Turkey, a caravanning holiday and a timeshare near Marbella. (Teletext) (s) (8175)

9.00 Dispatches. (Teletext) (317040)

9.45 Out Of Order. Trapped in the lift this week are Nesta Wynn Williams, the Prime Minister's biographer, and Nina Myskow who discuss whether John Major is sexy or just an anonymous man in a suit. (Teletext) (s) (608972)

10.00 ER. American hospital drama series. (Teletext) (s) (102446)

10.55 The Best Of the Tube. Includes performances by Wet Wet Wet and Echo and the Bunnymen (492866)

11.30 Moviewatch (r) (s) (70779)

12.00 LA Law. Courtroom drama series (2198199)

12.55am Omnibus. A commuter tries to get off a train that is not stopping at his station (5230847)

1.05 Beyond El Rocco. The second of two programmes about Australia's jazz scene (r) (s) (8411248)

2.10 FILM: Cynara (1932, b/w) starring Ronald Colman as a middle-aged lawyer whose extra-marital affair ends in disaster. Directed by King Vidor (1936538). Ends at **3.25**

VARIATIONS

ANGLIA

As London except: 1.55 A Country Practice (77772156) **2.20** Gardening Time (74720137) **2.50-3.20** Blockbusters (7249330) **5.10-5.40** Shortland Street (6254882) **6.25-7.00** Anglia Weather followed by Anglia News (2389072) **8.00-10.00** Romancing the Stone (4601) **10.40** Big Trouble in Little China (53252446) **12.30am** The Album Show (94538) **1.30** Hollywood Report (52431170) **1.55** America's Top Ten (52535557) **2.25** Shift (50293335) **3.20** The Little Picture Show (33148828) **4.15** Nite Bites (61885809) **4.25** The Time.. the Place (31690883) **5.00-5.30** The Munsters Today (88460)

CENTRAL

As London except: 1.55 A Country Practice (77772156) **2.20** Gardening Time (74720137) **2.50-3.20** Blockbusters (7249330) **5.10-5.40** Shortland Street (6254882) **6.25-7.00** Central News and Weather (2389072) **8.00-10.00** The Match Live - Coca Cola Cup 2nd Leg (4601) **10.40-12.40pm** Disorganised Crime (12815311) **3.55am** Profile (59220896) **4.05** Jobfinder (7682199) **5.20-5.30** Asian Eye (7354064)

GRANADA

As London except: 12.55 Shortland Street (2184866) **1.25** Home and Away (87701885) **1.50** Highway to Heaven (6100175) **2.50-3.20** Coronation Street (7249330) **5.10-5.40** A Country Practice (6254882) **6.25** Granada Tonight (2389072) **7.00-7.30** Wish You Were Here ..? (2750) **8.00-10.00** The Match - Live (4601) **10.40** Being There (148408) **11.25** World Championship Boxing — WBC Flyweight Championship (414088) **12.25am** Pop Profile (3250267) **12.40** Allen Nation (11238354) **1.35** Hollywood Report (2292557) **2.05** The Beat (6987712) **3.00** The Album Show (9794422) **4.05** Shift (2363880) **4.55-5.30** The Time... the Place (7880335)

HTV WEST

As London except: 1.55 Good Health' (35961175) **2.25** Good Advice (74729408) **2.55-3.20** Shortland Street (7155311) **5.10-5.40** A Country Practice (6254882) **6.30-7.00** HTV News (243) **8.00-10.00** Romancing the Stone (4601) **10.40-12.40pm** Somebody Has to Shoot the Picture (12815311)

HTV WALES

As HTV WEST except: 9.55am-10.00 HTV Wales News (8878408) **12.20pm-12.30** HTV Wales News and Weather (1620392) **1.55-2.25** Lungs for Workers (59061175) **3.25-3.30** HTV Wales News (6077040) **6.30-7.00** HTV Wales Tonight (243) **10.30** HTV Wales News and Weather (803953) **10.40** Championship Boxing (898866) **11.40-12.40pm** MacGyver (105953)

MERIDIAN

As London except: 1.55 A Country Practice (77772156) **2.20** Getaways (74720137) **2.50-3.20** Shortland Street (7249330) **3.25-3.30** Meridian News and Weather (6077040) **5.10** Home and Away (6254682) **5.37-5.40** Three Minutes - Freescreen (8175514) **6.00** Meridian Tonight (663) **6.30-7.00** The Village (243) **8.00-10.00** The Match Live - Coca Cola Cup Semi-Final (4601) **10.30** Menaces News and Weather (803953) **10.40** Spellbinder (53252446) **12.30am** The Album Show (94538) **1.30** Hollywood Report (52431170) **1.55** America's Top Ten (52535557) **2.25** Shift (50293335) **3.20** The Little Picture Show (33148828) **4.15** Nite Bites (61885809) **4.25** The Time... the Place (31690883) **5.00-5.30** Freescreen (88460)

WESTCOUNTRY

As London except: 1.55 High Road (35961175) **2.25-2.55** Great House Cookery (74729408) **5.10-5.40** Home and Away (6254682) **6.00-7.00** Westcountry Live (73717) **8.00-10.00** Romancing the Stone (4601) **10.40-12.40pm** The Comeback (12815311)

YORKSHIRE

As London except: 1.55 A Country Practice (77772156) **2.20** The Masters of Beauty (74720137) **2.50-3.20** Shortland Street (7249330) **5.10-5.40** Home and Away (6254682) **5.55** Calendar (532175) **6.30-7.00** Crosswits (243) **8.00-10.00** Romancing the Stone (4601) **10.40** Street Legal (808243) **11.35** To Catch A King (5815585) **1.30am** Hollywood Report (24248) **2.00** Videofashion (32286) **2.30** The Album Show (44828) **3.30** Noisy Mothers (8253977) **4.25-5.30** Jobfinder (1283441)

S4C

Starts: 7.00 The Big Breakfast (70309) **9.00** You Bet Your Life (27040) **9.30** Ysgolion (599156) **12.00pm** House To House (14576) **12.30** Slot Machin (56040) **1.00** Sesame Street (51595) **2.00** The Moon Is Down (876525) **3.35** Terrytoons (2149972) **3.45** (876525) **3.35** Terrytoons (2149972) **3.45** High Interest: A Gamble On The Ocean Wave (8797934) **4.30** The Cosby Show (840) **5.00** 5 Pump (7250872) **5.15** 5 Pump (6041224) **5.30** Countdown (382) **6.00** Newyddion (5243892) **6.15** Heno (968601) **7.00** Pobol Y Cwm (6232) **7.30** 'Nol Am Noson (998) **8.00** Amser Rhyfel (9040) **8.30** Newyddion (8175) **9.00** Dim Ond Cef (389392) **9.35** Rap (233882) **10.00** Brookside (15205) **10.30** E.R. (800601) **11.25** Dispatches (747953) **12.10am** The Golden Girls (4554460) **12.40** Ellen (4637538)

SATELLITE

SKY ONE

6.00am The DJ Kat Show (59595) **8.00** The Mighty Morphin Power Rangers (64585) **8.30** Blockbusters (63866) **9.00** The Oprah Winfrey Show (11175) **10.00** Concentration (27801) **10.30** Card Sharks (78330) **11.00** Sally Jessy Raphael (51156) **12.00** The Urban Peasant (67882) **12.30pm** Anything But Love (14088) **1.00** St Elsewhere (53553) **2.00** Darlings of the Gods (26330) **3.00** The Oprah Winfrey Show (6390359) **3.50** The DJ Kat Show (98577981) **4.30** The Mighty Morphin Power Rangers (6088) **5.00** Star Trek: The Next Generation (9069) **6.00** Gamesworld (7953) **6.30** Family Ties (8205) **7.00** Rescue (8458) **7.30** M*A*S*H (7717) **8.00** A Mind to Kill (36224) **10.00** Star Trek: The Next Generation (55359) **11.00** Late Show (310798) **11.50** Lotteryjohn (744327) **12.40am** Chances (3566248) **1.30** The New WKRP in Cincinnati (95793) **2.00-6.00** Hit Mix Long Play (6813624)

SKY NEWS

News on the hour.
6.00am Sunrise (1604683) **9.30** Entertainment (61798) **10.30** ABC Nightline (74972) **1.30pm** CBS News (24779) **2.30** Parliament Live (77243) **6.05** Lotteryjohn (19500934) **9.30** O.J. Simpson Trial (152798) **12.30am** CBS News (50118) **1.30** Fashion TV (75248) **2.30** Parliament (98737) **4.30** CBS News (26460) **5.30** ABC News (39016)

SKY MOVIES

6.00am Showcase (1554663) **10.00 Mister Ten Percent** (1986) (85576) **12.00 The Salzburg Connection** (1972) (98755) **2.00pm Comrack** (1974) (39311) **4.00 Across The Great Divide** (1977) (7601) **6.00 The Man in the Moon** (1991) (59175) **8.00 Jane's House** (1993) (21332) **10.00 Death Wish V — The Face of Death** (1993) (425205) **11.35 Angel Eyes** (1991) (679798) **12.55 Blood In, Blood Out** (1993) (18769660) **3.50 Dirty Mary, Crazy Larry** (1974) (83698422)

SKY MOVIES GOLD

6.00pm The Spy Who Came In from the Cold (1966) (15779) **8.00 The Three Faces of Eve** (1957)(10224) **10.00-12.00 Good Guys Wear Black** (1979) (27409)

THE MOVIE CHANNEL

6.00am Vincent and Me (1990)(42205) **8.00 Black Island** (1979)(52069) **9.00 Pop Pirates** (1984) (49935) **10.00 Who's Been Sleeping in My Bed?** (1963)(16446) **12.00 Tarzan and the Great River** (1967)(683427) **1.50 Home Alone 2: Lost in New York** (1992) (58943021) **3.50 Black Island** (1979) (3517866) **4.50 Pop Pirates** (1954) (8752507) **5.55 Ride with the Wind** (1993) (27553156) **7.30 Special Feature: Animals** (7917) **8.00 Home Alone 2: Lost in New York** (1992) (29934) **10.00 Seventh Floor** (1993) (1836822) **11.45 Traces of Red** (1992) (498446) **1.30 Ladykiller** (1992)(889335) **3.05 The Disappearance of Nora** (1993) (16043335)

● **For more film information, see the Vision supplement, published Saturday**

SKY SPORTS

7.00am Soccer News (4920779) **7.15** WWF Superstars (216717) **8.15** Soccer News (2943408) **8.30** Boots 'n' All (41863) **9.30** Aerobics (14663) **10.00** Football Show (75750) **11.00** Tartan Extra (95514) **12.00** Aerobics (52953) **12.30pm** Pole Position (61224) **1.30** Boots 'n' All (62953) **2.30** Rugby (2040) **3.00** Tartan Extra (31205) **4.00** National Trails (3392) **4.30** Skiing (9576) **5.00** WWF Challenge (5885) **6.00** Soccer (891601) **6.15** Fish Tales (898156) **6.30** Get Your Handicap Down (4021) **7.00** The Rugby Club (69576) **8.00** NBA Basketball (72040) **10.00** Soccer News (498359) **10.15** Get Your Handicap Down (934576) **10.45** The Rugby Club (806514) **11.45** Fish Tales (300601) **12.00-2.00am** NBA Basketball (64828)

EUROSPORT

7.30am Euroski (59576) **8.30** Figure Skating (50137) **10.00** Dancing (84066) **11.00** Speedworld (80622) **12.00** Live Freestyle Skiing (22662) **1.00pm** Equestrianism (31330) **2.00** Live Figure Skating (7445069) **5.30** Snowboarding (8224) **6.00** Eurosport News (5137) **6.30** Live Figure Skating (5615507) **10.00** Motors (86243) **11.00** Boxing (34525) **12.00-12.30am** Eurosport News (51199)

SKY TRAVEL

12.00 Australia (4459382) **12.30pm** Zoo Life (1882446) **1.00** Roads to Freedom (9972601) **1.30** Cook Italian (1681717) **2.00** California's Gold (7238040) **2.30** Ticket to Paradise (4018446) **3.00** Discover America (4882311) **4.00** Travel Guide (4009798) **4.30** Zoo Life (4096682) **5.00** Cruising the Globe (7229392) **5.30** Cook Italian (4089934) **6.00** Australia (4019175) **6.30** Video Trips — Caribbean (4000427) **7.00** Pastel Paradise — Miami (5971514) **8.00** Around The World (7225576) **8.30** Travel Guide (7237311) **9.00** Australia (-990330) **9.30** Caribbean (1662682) **10.00** Miami (5970885) **11.00** Cruising the Globe (4902175) **11.30-12.00** California's Gold (4327682)

SKY SOAP

8.00am Loving (4456205) **8.30** Peyton Place (4455576) **9.00** As the World Turns (5469069) **2.00** Bless This House (2340359) **2.30** Brush Strokes (1366137) **3.00** Knots Landing (1464381) **4.00** Dallas (8414066) **5.00** Every Second Counts (9021330) **5.35** Dick Emery (5577530) **5.50** Hi-De-Hi (4124358) **6.30** EastEnders (1311446) **7.00** Brush Strokes (2344175) **7.30** Bless This House (1300330) **8.00** Diary of Adrian Mole Aged 13¾ (2320595) **8.30** Carry On Laughing (2332330) **9.00** Miss Marple: The Moving Finger (9048088) **10.00** The Bill (2269369) **10.30** Top of the Pops (7950514) **11.10** The Young Ones (5940972) **11.50** Dr Who (6353021) **12.20am** FILM: The French Line (1954): Musical about a Texan heiress in Paris (9065712) **2.05-3.30** Shopping



Richard Burton as a spy (Sky Movies Gold, 6.00pm)

(4661934) **10.00** Guiding Light (9958021) **11.00-12.00** Another World (9978885)

THE CHILDREN'S CHANNEL

6.00am Sesame Street (8300779) **8.55** Garfield (7860953) **7.25** Eek the Cat (6858514) **7.55** Degrassi (9988886) **8.25** Super Mario Brothers (4700040) **8.45** Casper (1916243) **9.00** Sesame Street (84069) **10.00** It's Drobbee Time (63953) **12.00** Garfield (45099) **12.30** Eek the Cat (54205) **1.00** Beverly Hills Teens (17311) **1.30** Super Mario Brothers (83804069) **1.45** Baby Follies (83892224) **2.00** Barney (6156) **2.30** Babar (3798) **3.00** Casper (1046088) **3.15** Bill and Ted (129682) **3.45** Sonic (128953) **4.15** Head to Head (1635311) **4.30-5.00** California Dreams (3934)

TLC

9.00am Cartoonsing (2246409) **9.30** Madeleine Cooks (5457224) **10.00** J'Accuse Coronation Street (2278682) **10.30** Only Human (3811750) **11.15** Draw with Don (95875175) **11.30** Before the Law (7864327) **12.00** Practical Guides (5470175) **1.00pm** Madeleine Cooks (8546446) **1.30** Blitz on Cartooning (5450311) **2.00** Jimmy's (2331601) **2.30** Cash in Hand (1394778) **3.00** Stars and Gardens (2327408) **3.30-4.00** It's a Vet's Life (1398224)

UK GOLD

7.00am Give Us a Clue (8816205) **7.30** Neighbours (8828040) **8.00** Sons and Daughters (2256243) **8.30** EastEnders (2257514) **9.00** The Bill (2248866) **9.30** Campion (5250750) **10.30** When the Boat Comes In (1548243) **11.30** Terry and June (5084345) **12.00** Sons and Daughters (2251330) **12.30pm** Neighbours (5450798) **1.00** EastEnders (8815576) **1.30** The Bill (6858514) **2.00** Blue Heelers (2316137) **2.30** Knots Landing (1464381) **3.00** Dallas (8414066) **4.00** Every Second Counts (9021330) **4.35** Dick Emery (5577530) **5.00** Hi-De-Hi (4124358) **5.30** EastEnders (1311446) **6.00** Brush Strokes (2344175) **6.30** Bless This House (1300330) **7.00** Diary of Adrian Mole Aged 13¾ (2320595) **7.30** Carry On Laughing (2332330) **8.00** Miss Marple: The Moving Finger (9048088) **9.00** The Bill (2269369) **9.30** Top of the Pops (7950514) **10.10** The Young Ones (5940972) **10.50** Dr Who (6353021) **11.20am** FILM: The French Line (1954): Musical about a Texan heiress in Paris (9065712) **2.05-3.30** Shopping

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NICKELODEON

7.00am Nickalive! (4911021) **7.15** Pee Wee (230137) **7.45** Rugrats (239406) **8.15** Doug (3153982) **8.45** Nickalive! (8653088) **9.00** Nick Jr (330048) **12.00** Pee Wee (52935) **12.30pm** The Muppet Show (16021) **1.00** Smoggies (97972) **1.30** Alvin and The Chipmunks (15392) **2.00** Denver the Last Dinosaur (3040) **2.30** Galaxy High School (4822) **3.00** Attack of the Killer Tomatoes (2176) **3.30** Turtles Gold (2427) **4.00** Doug (1834) **4.30** Rugrats (4068) **5.00** Clarissa (4392) **5.30** The Secret World of Alex Mac (1798) **6.00** Grammy (1311) **6.30-7.00** Are You Afraid of the Dark? (2863)

DISCOVERY

4.00pm Waterways (1318359) **4.30** Held in Trust (1307243) **5.00** Treasure Hunters (2322953) **5.30** Terra X (8178069) **6.05** Beyond 2000 (4712224) **7.00** Predators (9048446) **8.00** Invention (2328137) **8.30** Nature Watch (2330972) **9.00** Magic or Medicine? (9037330) **10.00** Submarines (9047717) **11.00-12.00** *Eclipse of the Century* (8823586)

BRAVO

12.00 FILM: Man Beast (1957): Monsters on the rampage in Tibet (24588392) **1.15pm** Smothers Brothers (5771494) **2.00** The Avengers (2273137) **3.00** Rat Patrol (2314934) **3.30** Hogan's Heroes (1386790) **4.00** FILM: Treasure Island (1972) (2318750) **6.00** Gary Shandling (1382934) **6.30** Cannon (1593359) **7.30** Scotland Yard (1302796) **8.00** The Avengers (9011382) **9.00** The Twilight Zone (4719458) **9.30** FILM: Myra Breckinridge (1970): A film critic takes on Hollywood after a sex change (5015330) **11.30-12.00** Hogan's Heroes (2261392)

UK LIVING

8.00am Agony Hour (8217040) **7.00** Living (8732796) **8.00** The Ornamental Kitchen

Arsenal pledge full cooperation

Graham facing FA charge of misconduct

BY ROB HUGHES, FOOTBALL CORRESPONDENT

THE legal clouds over football will not lift. George Graham is to get his way or have his bluff called by the Football Association. Two weeks ago, when Arsenal dismissed him after hearing full disclosure from the Premier League of the way he received £425,000 from the signings of Pal Lydersen and John Jensen, Graham insisted: "I appeal to all right-minded lovers of the great game of football to press for a full and open inquiry by the FA."

Appeal granted. The FA yesterday promised such an investigation and at the same time charged Graham with "misconduct in relation to payments allegedly received". The former Arsenal manager has 21 days to prepare his defence, 21 days in which the threat from abroad, by Lennart Johansson, the president of Uefa, the game's European governing body, will bite into his confidence.

"If it's proven that a manager has taken money from a transfer," Johansson said, "he must be banned for life, worldwide." Johansson tends to speak first and engage logic later. However, there are many, inside and outside the marble halls of Highbury, who share his sentiment, and many more, one assumes, who feel it is Graham's right to be heard publicly.

Remember that he said the monies were "an unsolicited gift". Remember that he later paid Arsenal the full £425,000, plus interest, even though it was never alleged that the windfall was the property of Arsenal in the first place. There are questions there that will be intriguing when the FA investigates and the Arsenal managing director, Ken Friar, last night promised full co-operation by the club.

So a season that began under the wig and gown of Tottenham Hotspur's joust with the FA will almost certainly end with more legal arguments. The FA has been bruised, to put it mildly, in its attempts throughout the season to uphold any authority. Even the Premier League, whose investigations into "bungs" has been bedevilled at every twist and turn by legal representatives, has unfinished business.

After 100 years in which football proudly called itself the national game, it now abounds with shame. Apart from the Graham affair, there is the Grobbelaar case, which is still in the hands of the Hampshire police. There are



Graham: charged

also scheduled appearances in magistrates courts. Dennis Wise, the captain of Chelsea, will be sentenced on Monday after his conviction for assault of London taxi driver. Then, on March 23, not only Eric Cantona, but also Paul Ince face the court in Croydon, Cantona for his now infamous two-footed kick, and Ince for an alleged assault on another spectator that same night at Selhurst Park.

Alas, the rancour does not end there. The former England manager, Graham Taylor, now in charge of Wolverhampton Wanderers, and the former Liverpool manager, Graeme Souness, are in various stages of their ripostes to newspaper insinuations that they, too, have profited from transfer imports.

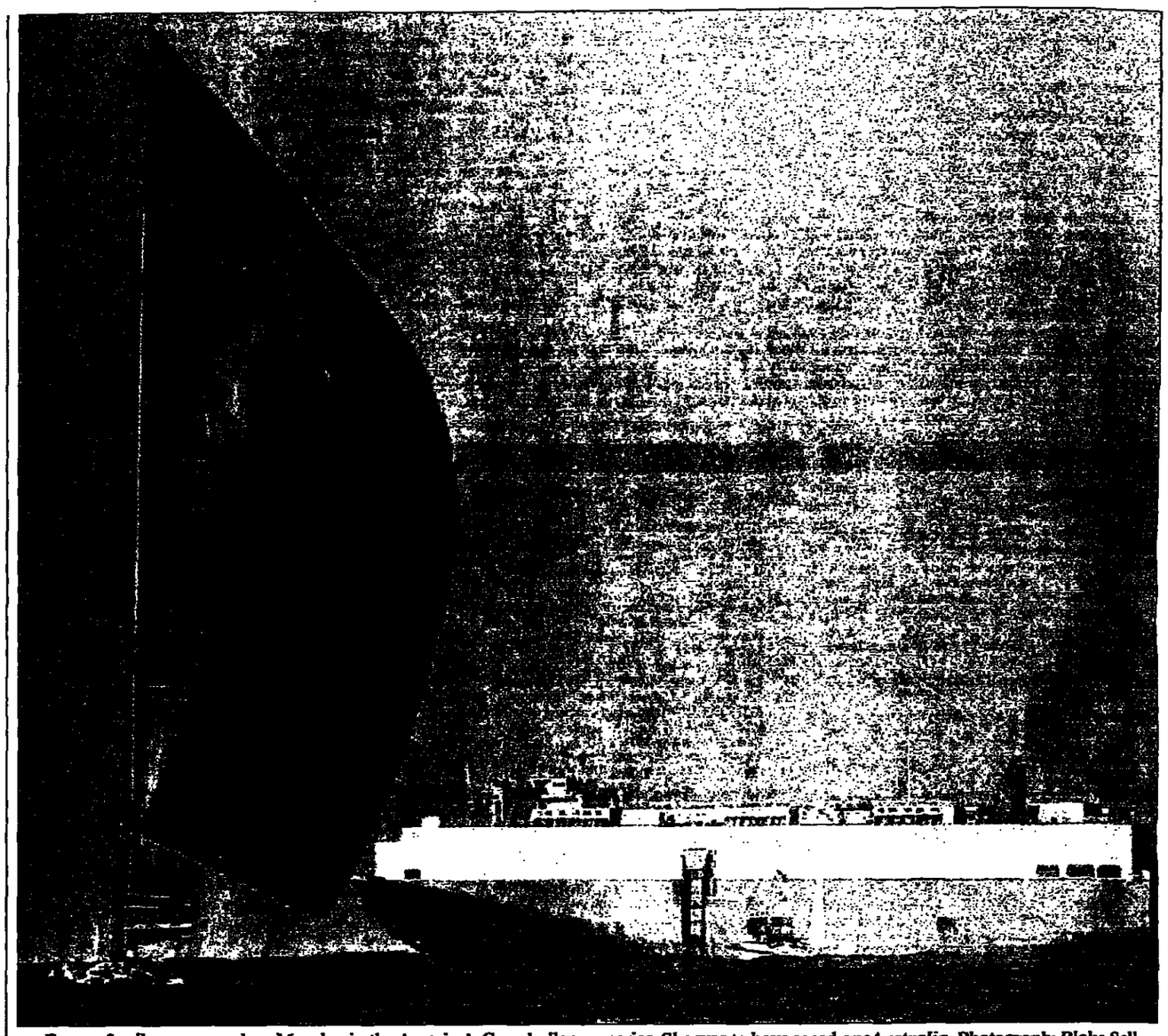
The game reels from it all. How on earth can an agent like Rune Hauge trample all over British football, acquire a Fifa licence professing him to be the type of adviser clubs and players should seek. Rick Parry, the chief executive of the Premier League, is drafting new rules, rules that would put a stop to the dastardly games played on and around the fringes of this "great game". He has the full approval of all 22 club chairmen in the FA Carling Premiership.

As he works away, one day wearing the quasi-wig of a judge in what George Graham called "the kangaroo court", the next trying to be the £140,000-a-year administrator, some gentlemen from a far-off land arrive.

A senator and a detective from the Australian fraud squad are in Britain to explore the transfer that brought the goalkeeper, Frank Talia, to Blackburn Rovers from Sunshine George Cross in August 1992. More impropriety is suggested and, of course, refuted in Lancashire.

What can be done about football? Terry Venables, the England coach, suggested that a little Singapore-style justice would not go amiss to for the thugs in the stands at Dublin. Well, Singapore is also in the mire. When, yesterday, a trial began concerning the fixing of matches in Malaysia, a bookmaker, Rajendran Kurusamy, admitted: "I did fix matches. I received between 60,000 Singapore dollars (approximately £28,000) and 500,000 Singapore dollars in bets per match." He, and others implicated in the trial, face jail sentences of five years. British justice slowly moves in on miscreants here.

Ruddock recalled, page 44



France 3 sails unopposed on Monday in the America's Cup challenger series. She was to have raced *oneAustralia*. Photograph: Blake Sell

Yacht's sinking attracts flimsy theories

Barry Pickthall looks at reasons for the catastrophic end of the America's Cup racer

HOW could a new yacht, worth £2 million and with just ten races on the clock, fold up like cardboard and sink within three minutes? The shockwaves from the demise of John Bertrand's America's Cup challenger, *oneAustralia*, in 1,200 feet of water off Point Loma on Sunday reverberated yesterday.

In Australia, the boat-builder, John McConaghy, whose Sydney-based company built *oneAustralia* and Syd Fischer's rival challenger, *Sydney 95*, said yesterday: "The boats have been designed to the point where it is dangerous all the time. Given those conditions, I would expect the boat to be under some pressure. These boats are light and flimsy and you expect things to be broken now and then, but you plan them to be minor — the sort of stuff that can be patched up back ashore. Certainly you do not expect anything as catastrophic as this."

Shortly before the boat folded, the drive to the port primary winch used to sheet in the genoa broke and the crew led the line to another winch ten feet aft normally used to tension the running back stays supporting the mast. This produced a four-ton load on the back of the boat, and analysis of the videotape footage taken as *oneAustralia* broke up has led some designers to believe that the deck failed under compression from the increased load.

"Someone goofed," David Pedrick, who designed Dennis Conner's defence challenger, *Stars & Stripes*, said. "Obviously, they went too light in their design engineering. They cut it too close."

Peter Morris, the chief executive of *oneAustralia*, was less convinced. "We will never know what happened. These boats are like Formula One cars. You are testing the outer sides of the envelope. Sometimes things happen that can never be explained."

Morris did not discount Pedrick's theory, but said: "It is only a theory. If you had four experts in a room, you'd finish up with five theories, only one of which they would all share. We could have hit something. There isn't a best guess, but there was some sort of structural failure."

Bertrand decided yesterday not to try to salvage the boat, which would have hit the seabed at around 12 knots. "At that speed there would not be much left of the boat, and the mast would almost certainly have broken," one crewman said.

Instead, the team concentrated on getting its other boat into trim for yesterday's match against *Sydney 95*, having given a walkover to *France 3* on Monday while remeasurement took place.

"We have no structural concerns about the old boat, which has been sailed for almost a year in much worse conditions off the Queensland coast," Morris said. "The two boats were constructed differently, and we will now be fitting the latest underwater appendage designs to the old boat."

The helmsman, Rob Davis, is confident the team can regain its competitiveness.

Positions, page 44

Committee sacks Pakistan captain

BY SIMON WILDE

A SECRET telephone call a month ago, alerting a Sydney journalist to bribes allegedly offered to Australian Test cricketers, set in train events which led to the dismissal yesterday of Salim Malik and Intikhab Alam as captain and manager of the Pakistan team.

The *ad hoc* committee in charge of the game in Pakistan, chaired by Javed Burki, interviewed both men during an eight-hour meeting in Lahore to discuss information passed to it from the Australian Cricket Board and the International Cricket Council. Salim, 31, who had been captain for just over a year, left the meeting carrying an envelope.

The board issued a statement in which it made it clear the ball was now in Salim's court. It said that Salim had been suspended from playing for Pakistan or any first-class team in the country and given seven days in which to reply to the charges and show why "disciplinary action should not be taken against him". Salim said yesterday he would consult his legal adviser.

Intikhab, 53, had acted as Pakistan manager on a regular basis since 1988 and had said he would resign if the allegations were shown to have foundation. The committee said yesterday that a new captain and manager would be appointed for Pakistan's next engagement, the Asia Cup in Sharjah starting on April 5.

Salim and Intikhab are unlikely to be the last casualties of the affair. Statements from Australian players are believed to level charges against another Pakistan player and now that action has been taken against Salim suspicions may grow that he will be identified as Ijaz Ahmed, Salim's brother-in-law. The committee confirmed yesterday that it is seeking explanations from "other players".

Rashid Latif and Basit Ali face bans of three years and upwards for what the committee described as a serious breach of their contracts by leaving Pakistan's tour of Zimbabwe a fortnight ago without permission, an act that had "tarnished" the image of the country.

Both Rashid, 26, who had been vice-captain to Salim, and Basit, 24, have announced their retirements from the international game but in Pakistan cricket such decisions are rarely irrevocable.

Once the bloodletting has ended, Pakistan will have little time to gather its forces before defending the World Cup early next year. The tournament is scheduled to be staged on the Asian sub-continent.

Candidates for the captaincy will include Javed Miandad, who is keen to return to the Pakistan team and who had a meeting with Javed Burki three days ago. However, both his leadership and that of another contender, Wasim Akram, Salim's predecessor, led to divisions within the team and a compromise choice such as Ramiz Raja, 32, who last played Test cricket two years ago, may be sought.

Majid Khan is considered a likely successor to Intikhab, an option which would result in three of the most influential voices in Pakistan cricket — the others being those of Javed Burki and Imran Khan — belonging to the same extended Lahore family.

Players benefit, page 43

Mansell squeezed out of early contention

BY OUR SPORTS STAFF

NIGEL MANSELL and Mika Hakkinen discovered yesterday that the cockpit of their new McLaren Formula One car was too small. It is feared that the design error may have jeopardised the team's championship prospects in the coming season.

Mansell, who joined McLaren after failing to team up with Damon Hill at Williams, was travelling to Britain yesterday to experiment with new cockpit lay-outs at the McLaren team's Woking headquarters today.

He refused to talk to reporters in Estoril, Portugal, where McLaren have struggled by more than two seconds to match the pace-setting Williams team in testing, but his team-mate, Hakkinen, confirmed their problems.

"Driving it is like running the London Marathon in a pair of running shoes which are too small," Hakkinen said.

"At the start line you are thinking about the race in front of you and how much it is going to hurt. You've got the guts to do everything you need to finish the race but you know it will hurt your ability to race at the maximum pace. There is a lot of pain. It is the same thing for the runner as it will be for us."

He said Mansell's stature made the problem more acute for him because of his broad shoulders and heavy build. "I know he has problems and he has suffered from bruising to his hands and arms. If it is bad for me, it is much worse for him," Hakkinen said.

A McLaren spokesman, who wished to remain anonymous, did not believe it was a serious problem.

The car was launched two weeks ago at the Science Museum in London and was hailed as one of the most revolutionary designs in Formula One history.

At the time, Mansell said: "If it goes as quick as it looks, then everybody had better watch out. I am raring to go and I am very hungry."

But in testing this week the McLaren has been unable to match the pace of its Formula One rivals.

While Williams and Jordan have set new testing records, Mansell has been left behind at the tail of the field. On Monday, only Pedro Diniz, the Brazilian, in the new Forti Corse was slower than the Briton.

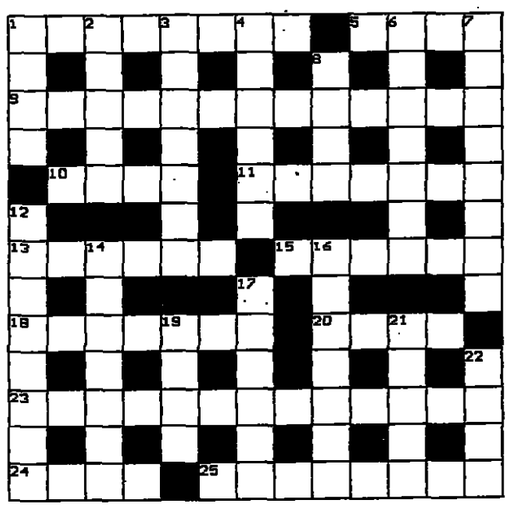
Hill and his team-mate David Coulthard set the best times yesterday, leaving the world champion, Michael Schumacher, trailing.

Hill's best lap was clocked at 1min 22.21sec, 500ths of a second faster than his Scottish partner.

Rubens Barrichello, of Brazil, was a surprising third-fastest in the Jordanin 1min 22.73sec, ahead of Schumacher in 1min 22.83sec.

Schumacher's Benetton team-mate, the British driver, Johnny Herbert, was unhurt after spinning off a bend and hitting the safety barriers with the back of his car.

TIMES TWO CROSSWORD



No 414

ACROSS

1 Enormous beast (Job) (8)
5 In the same (referenced) book (4)
9 Large sum of money (1,5,7)
10 Herring measure (4)
11 Carry out (7)
13 Powerful (6)
15 Sound of leaves in wind (6)
18 Affect; cause to participate (7)
20 (Unnecessary) agitation (4)
23 Overlook (misdemeanour) (4,1,5,3)
24 Cut the harvest (4)
25 Characterlessness (8)

DOWN

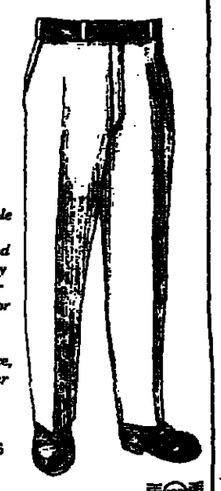
1 Heehaw; its vicar a trimmer (4)
2 Greek poet; pigeon; weak referee (5)
3 Black skin pigment (7)
4 Little mound (6)
6 Aroma; bunch of flowers (7)
7 Intensified (8)
8 Exhort (4)
12 Tiny wood fragment (8)
14 Greek restaurant (7)
16 Failing to amuse (7)
17 Wine store (6)
19 Burden; heap on (4)
21 Kid (glove) (5)
22 Falcon strap (4)

SOLUTION TO NO 413
ACROSS: 5 Norman French 8 Shower 9 Latent 10 Quad 12 Janitor 14 Pierced 15 Verb 17 Zither 18 Racial 20 Henry IV Part I
DOWN: 1 On the qui vive 2 Brow 3 Offload 4 Bestride 6 Acre 7 Can you beat it? 11 Ayrshire 13 Recruit 16 Drop 19 Cure

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